Daily Report

Latin America

FBIS-LAT-90-239
Wednesday
12 December 1990

Daily Report
Latin America

FBIS-LAT-90-239 *12 December 1990*

CONTENTS

NOTICE TO READERS. An * indicates material not disseminated in electronic form.

INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS

Andean Pact-EC Mixed Commission Meets in Lima *[Madrid EFE]* 1
Caricom Members Discuss Americas Initiative *[CANA]* 1
Latin American Integration Conference Opens *[Lima TV]* 2

CARIBBEAN

Cuba

Fidel Castro Decorates PLO's Faruq Qaddumi *[Havana TV]* 3
Rafael Rodriguez on Meeting Qaddumi *[Havana TV]* 3
Commentary Evaluates Relations With East Europe *[Havana International]* 3
Fidel Castro Visits Agricultural Enterprise *[Havana TV]* 4
Meets With Students *[Havana TV]* 4
Morales Addresses Uruguayan Party Congress *[Havana TV]* 4
Albanian Foreign Minister Meets Lionel Soto *[Havana TV]* 5
Cooperation Prospects With Argentina Noted *[Havana TV]* 5
* Christian Democrats Meet With UJC Members *[JUVENTUD REBELDE 11 Nov]* 5
* Increasing Use of Horses for Transport *[GRANMA 10 Nov]* 5

British Virgin Islands

Government Targets Drugs, Financial Services *[CANA]* 5

Haiti

Military Department Arrests 10 in Bomb Probe *[Port-au-Prince Radio]* 6
Aristide Outlines 3-Part Presidential Program *[Port-au-Prince Radio]* 6
Two UN-Team Election Observers Profiled *[Nassau Radio]* 7

Trinidad and Tobago

Ken Butcher Reiterates Intention To Resign *[CANA]* 7

MEXICO

Attorney General Comments on Budget, U.S. *[Mexico City TV]* 8
PJE Reports Catholic Priest Tortured, Shot *[NOTIMEX]* 8
Police Commanders, Agents Fired in Chihuahua *[Mexico City TV]* 8

CENTRAL AMERICA

Costa Rica

Niehaus on Free Trade With Mexico, Summit *[LA NACION 1 Dec]* 9

El Salvador

Judge Scores Investigators in Jesuits' Case *[EL MUNDO 8 Dec]* 9
Judge Orders Opening of Jesuits' Murder Trial *[LA PRENSA GRAFICA 10 Dec]* 9
Rivera y Damas on Offensive, Jesuits' Case *[San Salvador Radio]* 10
Hydroelectric Plant President on FMLN Violence *[Mexico City NOTIMEX]* 11

Guatemala

Congress Condemns Massacre, Demands Investigation *[EL GRAFICO 5 Dec]* 11
Bolanos on Measures After Massacre *[Guatemala City TV]* 12
Cerezo Calls Massacre 'Tragic' *[SIGLO VEINTIUNO 8 Dec]* 12
Transportation Sector Told To Resume Services *[PRENSA LIBRE 8 Dec]* 13
Poll Shows Serrano Leading With 48 Percent *[SIGLO VEINTIUNO 6 Dec]* 13
New Chief for Information, Press Appointed *[SIGLO VEINTIUNO 4 Dec]* 14

Nicaragua

Antonio Lacayo Reviews Spain, France Visits *[Managua Radio]* 14
Taiwanese Official Comments on Aid, Investments *[BARRICADA 2 Dec]* 15
Mayors' Group Requests Cut in Military Budget *[LA PRENSA 3 Dec]* 15

Panama

U.S. Accused of 'Blackmail' in Foiled Coup *[EL SIGLO 8 Dec]* 16
Lawyer Scores Bush on Troops' Stay in Panama *[Panama City Radio]* 16
Guatemalan Embassy Refugees Granted Safe-Conduct *[Panama City Radio]* 17
Endara Charged With 'Abuse of Authority' *[LA PRENSA 11 Dec]* 17
20 Officers Involved in 5 Dec Events Fired *[LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA 11 Dec]* 18
Labor Leaders Call Dismissals Law 'Hitler-Like' *[LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA 8 Dec]* 18
Ford on Firing Strikers, Legal Assistance Treaty *[Panama City TV]* 18
Cabinet Said To Approve Dismissing 400 Workers *[LA PRENSA 11 Dec]* 19
Rodriguez, 150 Workers Fired *[Panama City Radio]* 19
Rebels Said To Have 'Contact' With Public Force *[ACAN]* 19

SOUTH AMERICA

Argentina

Civilians Arrested in Military Rebellion Named *[TELAM]* 20
Further on Alleged Rico-Vazquez Conversation *[NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS]* 20
Painted Faces Leader Aldo Rico Interviewed *[Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO 6 Dec]* 21
Report Issued on Uruguayan Round of GATT Talks *[NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS]* 22
Government To Discuss Patents With U.S. *[NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS]* 22
Correction to Menem Issues Disclaimer 23
Correction to Civilians To Be Tried With Rebels 23

Bolivia

CNPZ Communique Launches Armed Struggle *[La Paz Radio]* 23
Dismantling of Group Denied *[La Paz Radio]* 23
Station Justifies Broadcast *[La Paz Radio]* 24
Ministry Orders Investigation Into Torture *[La Paz Radio]* 24
Commentary Criticizes Police Actions *[La Paz Radio]* 24

Brazil

Country To Insist on Reduction of Subsidies *[Brasilia Radio]* 25
Defense To Accuse CIA of Chico Mendes Murder *[FOLHA DE SAO PAULO 6 Dec]* 25
Decree Names Environmental Council Members *[Brasilia Radio]* 25
Health Minister Criticizes Cuba Over Vaccines *[Madrid EFE]* 26
Collor Appoints New Economy Under Secretary *[O GLOBO 1 Dec]* 26
Sao Paulo Industries Dismiss 24,266 Workers *[Brasilia Radio]* 26
* Growing Influence of Collor Clan Members Seen *[CORREIO BRAZILIENSE 21 Oct]* 26
* Decline in Collor's Popularity Assessed *[O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO 13 Nov]* 28
* Losses From Iranian Oil Contracts Confirmed *[O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO 21 Nov]* 29
* Iran Trip Centers on Trade, Oil Talks 29
* Businessmen Promote Exports *[O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO 18 Nov]* 29
* Motives for Trip Questioned *[O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO 21 Nov]* 31

Chile

* Marin: Communists To Continue Marxist Fight *[EL MERCURIO 28 Oct]* 31

Colombia

Army Continues Offensive Against FARC *[Bogota TV]* 37
Extraditables Release Kidnapped German Journalist *[Bogota TV]* 38
Promotions, Transfers in Armed Forces Ordered *[EL NUEVO SIGLO 24 Nov]* 38
Medellin Superior Tribunal Judge Wounded 10 Dec *[Bogota TV]* 39
* Colombians Polled on Assembly Issues *[SEMANA 13 Oct, etc.]* 39

Paraguay

Commander Reports Resurgence of 'Nostalgic Groups' *[ULTIMA HORA 10 Dec]* 40

Peru

Guerrillas Attack U.S. Oil Company Installation *[AFP]* 40
Panamanian Ties Normalized, Ambassador Accredited *[Madrid EFE]* 41
Fujimori Supports Army, Criticizes Legislators *[Lima TV]* 41
Names Minister, Backs Armed Forces *[Lima TV]* 42
Senators React to Fujimori's Remarks *[Lima TV]* 42
Swears In New Education Minister *[Lima TV]* 43
Shining Path Guerrillas Torture, Kill Peasants *[Madrid EFE]* 43
Commission To Study Project With Colombia *[Lima Radio]* 43

Uruguay

Lawmakers Assess Bush Speech to Congress *[EL DIA 5 Dec]* 43
'Hundreds' Demonstrate Against Bush's Visit *[LA HORA POPULAR 5 Dec]* 44
Lacalle To Meet Menem in Buenos Aires *[Montevideo Radio]* 44

Andean Pact-EC Mixed Commission Meets in Lima

PY1112175790 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1944 GMT 10 Dec 90

[Excerpt] Lima, 10 Dec (EFE)—The Andean Board reported today that the Andean Pact-European Communities (EC) Mixed Commission [Comision Mixta del Pacto Andino y la Comunidad Europea (CE)] today began a two day meeting in Lima to consolidate relations between the two communitarian organizations and to discuss issues dealing with commerce, industry, science, technology, and finance.

The agenda also includes the agriculture and livestock, transport and communications, and energy and services sectors. The inclusion of other areas such as the environment will also be studied.

Spaniard Angel Vinas, the EC foreign relations director general and head of the European delegation, has said that over the past few years the European Communities have become increasingly sensitive to the problems faced by Latin America, and especially those faced by the Andean Pact, which comprises Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, and Venezuela. [passage omitted]

Caricom Members Discuss Americas Initiative

FL1112193090 Bridgetown CANA in English 1812 GMT 11 Dec 90

[Report by Wesley Kirton]

[Text] Miami, Florida, Dec 11, CANA—Caribbean business and political leaders discussed the region's economic future over four days here last week, but most remain unclear about one major issue of concern—President George Bush's Enterprise for the Americas Initiative. The initiative, announced last June, was a critical element of the talks at the annual Miami Conference on the Caribbean. The main concern of politicians and private sector officials from Caribbean Community (Caricom) member countries seemed to be the requirement that there be reciprocity in allowing the free movement of goods.

Dominica's Trade, Industry, and Tourism Minister Charles Maynard felt the initiative, on the surface, would not be of benefit to the small island states of the Caribbean. He, however, did not suggest that Caricom countries ignore the Bush initiative, but rather ensure that a well thought out Caricom position was formulated in response. Maynard said the Caricom position would have to take into account the impact and implications of a free trade arrangement within the hemisphere on Caricom's trading relations with Europe under the Lome Convention with the European Community.

The Dominican minister also expressed concern about apparent attempts by the United States to begin discussions with Caricom countries on the initiative on a bilateral basis. U.S. assistant trade representative for Latin America and the Caribbean, Myles Frechette had announced early November that Washington would send a team to Jamaica to begin discussions on the initiative but last week he confirmed that the team did not go to Jamaica because the authorities there found the dates inconvenient. However, it is believed the Jamaicans are themselves unhappy about the bilateral approach and are sticking with a Caricom heads of government mandate that any discussion on the initiative with U.S. officials be undertaken as a Caricom effort.

St. Lucia's Prime Minister John Compton reaffirmed the region's commitment to free trade during last week's deliberations, but warned that in current circumstances, small, vulnerable Caribbean countries should not be required to enter into a reciprocal free trade relationship with major industrialised trading nations such as the United States, Canada, Brazil, or Argentina.

Grenada's Prime Minister Nicholas Brathwaite wanted the United States to be more clear on the strategies for implementing the initiative and was against anything that would threaten the survival of businesses in the region, thus threatening jobs. Brathwaite said the region needed to create more jobs for its people so as to ensure that their circumstances would not lead them to crime, drugs, and even violent activity as was the case in Trinidad and Tobago last July when there was an unsuccessful coup attempt against the government. The Grenadian leader, who insists on a Caricom response, said however that regional producers needed to raise their levels of productivity and to become more competitive if the region is to become fully integrated into the world economy.

Frechette said the region was over-reacting. He said that in announcing the initiative, President Bush had alluded to the fact that some countries would not be ready to take the dramatic step to a full free trade agreement.

"That is why we have said we are prepared to negotiate with any interested nation in the region, bilateral framework agreements that take into account their own peculiar circumstances," Frechette said.

This view was shared by president of the Inter-American Development Bank, Enrique Iglesias whose bank is to play a key role in the new initiative. He expressed the view that the small countries of the region "are the ones for whom this initiative has been designed." Iglesias disclosed that U.S. 150 million dollars would be made available to promote investment and private sector development in the region. He said the region's experience with Lome over the years could be of benefit in helping to implement the initiative and that a hemisphere-wide free trade arrangement would have no negative implications for the Caricom region's relations with Europe under Lome.

Leon Gibbs, government affairs director for Latin America and the Caribbean at Johnson and Johnson, an American pharmaceutical firm with plants in the region, felt the Caricom region could lose out if countries could not offer the kind of investment incentives which other

socialism, and it started from zero. It is currently mandatory that [words indistinct] the ties with foreign countries as was done three decades ago.

Fidel Castro Visits Agricultural Enterprise

FL1112131690 Havana Tele Rebelde Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 11 Dec 90

[Text] Commander in Chief Fidel Castro toured the installations of the Guira de Melena Miscellaneous Crops Enterprise, where he observed the work of wheat growers. Fidel expressed his satisfaction with the progress of the work that is being done as part of the food program, the planting of potatoes [words indistinct] and the progress of the plantain crop with the microjet system.

During his tour, our commander in chief visited El Mamey camp, where he looked into the attention being given to the workers, what they are being fed, and other matters, such as the entertainment equipment that he had sent them.

Meets With Students

FL1212020590 Havana Television Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 12 Dec 90

[Report on Commander in Chief Fidel Castro's talk with students from the School of Pharmacy about laboratory construction plans and professional possibilities, at the University of Havana on 12 December—recorded]

[Excerpt] [Castro] [Words indistinct] but our laboratories are going to be there in a year and a half. This depends on when we begin to build the new school; we want to make it not like the School of Medicine. We want to do....[changes thought] It will not be as pretty as this one, because this is from a different era [words indistinct] but make one that is good and modern, and then we will have two. There were some people hoping to get the building [words indistinct] laboratories. The best thing is to leave it and have two schools instead of one. Then we will really have a pharmaceutical industry in this country. You did not have any jobs. You were going to set up a pharmacy somewhere. [laughter] Your future was to have a pharmacy [words indistinct] drinks, syrups, and all those things. You are the vanguard of the pharmaceutical industry. We are recruiting people for this

[Unidentified speaker] What have they said? What is their attitude?

[Castro] These people are phenomenal. [laughter] Yes. Imagine, now we will be developing a great phamaceutical industry, and they were going to be pharmacists. [laughter]

[Unidentified speaker] What do you mean, pharmacists?

[Castro] Yes, that is the only future they had here, before this, right? Now that we are developing an industry, we need cadres, experts, scientists, and we are recruiting people. We are going to have a new school and we are going to have two, two schools, one in that area [words indistinct] and this one we are going to have [words indistinct] as a research center. As you can see [words indistinct] special period, and to quickly get out of [words indistinct]

[Unidentified speaker] Commander, and now [words indistinct]?

[Castro] What?

[Unidentified speaker] When they finish.

[Castro] Finish what?

[Unidentified speaker] [Words indistinct] pharmacists.

[Castro] They are going to work in the pharmaceutical industry, basically.

[Unidentified speaker] Basically.

[Castro] The food specialists are going to work in the food sector, some in industry also, because we are also going to link them up with the new Food Industry Institute that is being finished now. It is a great institute. So we are going to put the new school beside the Pharmaceutical Chemistry Institute, and in an area where [words indistinct] there are many factories being built. Also, the food specialists, by going there, are going to be near the Food Industry Institute, which is near Punta Brava. So they are also going to have a great foundation of study.

[Unidentified speaker] They will be close to the countryside?

[Castro] Well, they are close to the countryside and close to the city, because it is becoming very developed, and it will be a good place to work and live. Yes. [applause] [passage omitted]

Morales Addresses Uruguayan Party Congress

FL1112153290 Havana Tele Rebelde Network in Spanish 1456 GMT 11 Dec 90

[Text] Alfredo Morales, member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba [PCC], pointed out in Montevideo the risks that loom over the Third World as a result of an attempt to impose an imperialist policy worldwide.

Morales made a speech in the final session of the 40th Congress of the Socialist Party of Uruguay, which was attended by guests from other Latin American and European countries.

The Cuban representative also said that the neoliberal option has become [words indistinct], causing increasing poverty and social inequality. Nevertheless, Morales

expressed confidence in the advancement of popular and progressive forces. In this context, he highlighted the role of Uruguayan leftists.

Albanian Foreign Minister Meets Lionel Soto

FL1112135490 Havana Tele Rebelde Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 11 Dec 90

[Text] Lionel Soto, member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba and vice president of the Council of Ministers, has received Reis Malile, a member of the Central Committee of the Albanian Labor Party and foreign minister of that Balkan nation.

The meeting transpired in a very friendly atmosphere. In the course of the meeting, the Alanian foreign minister indicated his great respect for the endeavor embarked on by Fidel and his comrades. He said that the peoples of Cuba and Albania have the same interests and are pursuing the same objectives of development.

Lionel Soto indicated that the revolutionary processes of the two countries are the result of their peoples' struggles, and therefore cannot be compared with other processes [words indistinct].

Cooperation Prospects With Argentina Noted

FL1112185990 Havana Tele Rebelde Network in Spanish 1800 GMT 11 Dec 90

[Text] Officials, businessmen, and bankers of Argentina's Mendoza Province have expressed interest in increasing trade and cooperation with Cuba. Miguel Brugueras, our country's ambassador, traveled to that area at the invitation of the governor. He met with businessmen and government officials there. The two parties talked about trade possibilities. The Mendoza people were especially interested in cooperation with Cuba in the area of health.

* Christian Democrats Meet With UJC Members

91P40068A

[Editorial Report] Havana JUVENTUD REBELDE in Spanish on 11 November reports on page 7 that a bilateral seminar took place in Havana between the International Union of Christian Democratic Youth (UIJDC) and the Union of Young Communists (UJC). This was the first time such an event had occurred in Cuba. Observers characterized it as "an encounter between opposing ideological currents."

The meeting created an opportunity for broad and open debate on topics such as democracy, human rights, foreign debt, the new international economic order, and the current situation in Latin America and the Caribbean, according to the visitors.

The UIJDC leaders agreed that the meeting was very fruitful. They said they were able to confirm that debate and a variety of opinions exist in Cuban society.

The UIJDC representatives said they recognized that solutions to the country's problems should be decided by the island's inhabitants and that no one should interfere with this. Some stressed Cuban advances in health and education, calling them "a model for Latin America...and not only for Latin America."

The informal meetings were not limited to discussions with youth leaders. The committee, which included the UIJDC executive secretary and assistant secretary general, the president of the Christian Democratic Youth of America (JUDCA), and the JUDCA secretary general, spoke with Cuban students, workers, and young artists.

During their one week stay, the Christian Democratic leaders met with Juan Escalona, president of the National Assembly; Jaime Ortega, archbishop of Havana; and Roberto Robaina, first secretary to the UJC.

* Increasing Use of Horses for Transport

91P40066A

[Editorial Report] Havana GRANMA in Spanish on 10 November reports on page 6 that horses are being used increasingly in Boyeros, a municipality of southern Havana, to haul food, construction materials and various types of merchandise. In the near future, this practice may be extended to trash collection as well.

An administrative unit within the People's Government is currently being organized to provide the necessary feed, saddlery, and blacksmith facilities for the horses. The work is being carried out by the social minibrigade in charge of local buildings.

Israel Tomas Zerquere, president of the People's Government municipal assembly, told GRANMA they are planning to provide stations for horse-drawn transport in each of the six People's Council zones of that area in order to avoid lengthy and unnecessary trips for the horses.

The wagons are equipped with wheels covered by rubber hoops to facilitate movement on asphalt surfaces. A future model with sliding side doors will be used for trash collection. A two-wheeled, horse-drawn cart is also being produced which would be suitable for transporting large, lightweight objects.

British Virgin Islands

Government Targets Drugs, Financial Services

FL1212030090 Bridgetown CANA in English 2142 GMT 11 Dec 90

[Text] Road Town, Tortola, Dec 11, CANA—The Government of the British Virgin Islands has listed the fight against drugs and improvement of the offshore financial services sector as priority areas during the next four years. Emphasis is also being placed on social and youth development, health, tourism, agriculture and immigration.

Government will "continue its efforts to make the British Virgin Islands the premier jurisdiction for financial service activities within the region in terms of quality, efficiency and probity", Governor of the British territory J. Mark Herdman, said. The international financial services are the fastest growing sector of government revenue here.

The governor said, "A bill to provide for the confiscation of assets from the proceeds of drugs trafficking will be introduced". The government also plans to introduce a five year health plan early next year. In the area of tourism, Herdman said government will initiate vigorous efforts to encourage growth in the ownership of prime tourism property by locals.

In addition, legislation for "enhancing the prospects of the yacht charter industry will be introduced", the governor reported. "Policies aimed at increasing food production for domestic consumption and export including making land available to farmers for vegetable and crop production will be pursued," Herdman reported.

He said, "Review of the immigration and labour policies will take high priority and special attention will be given to reducing the number of floating illegal immigrants in the territory". The British Virgin Islands have become home to a community of immigrants from regional countries including St. Kitts and Nevis, Antigua, Dominica, St. Lucia and St. Vincent.

Haiti

Military Department Arrests 10 in Bomb Probe

FL1112232790 Port-au-Prince Radio Nationale in Creole 1400 GMT 11 Dec 90

[Text] The Military Department of the metropolitan area announced the arrest of 10 people in connection with the investigation into the criminal act which took place in Petionville on Wednesday, 5 December. The department found in the possession of one of the arrested persons 35 electoral cards already filled out.

Aristide Outlines 3-Part Presidential Program

FL1112220590 Port-au-Prince Radio Soleil Network in Creole 1200 GMT 11 Dec 90

[Report on news conference by Jean-Bertrand Aristide and his staff at the Christopher Hotel in Port-au-Prince on 11 December—recorded]

[Excerpts] Presidential candidate Father Jean-Bertrand Aristide asserted yesterday that the United States is ready to welcome a National Front for Democracy and Change [FNCD] government if his party wins the forthcoming elections. Everything is all right with the U.S. They are ready to welcome an 'Avalanche' government, he explained, and so is France. He added that an Avalanche government would have no problem with either Cuba or the Soviet Union, but that his government would hesitate before establishing friendly relations with these two countries. Such a decision would need to be more thoroughly thought out. They would have to take their time.

Aristide also advised that the Catholic Church hierarchy in Haiti still recognizes him as a priest, but that, as soon as he becomes president, he would need to accept a layman's status to avoid any conflict with the Vatican. [passage omitted]

When asked what he believes to be his most important qualities that would help the people overcome extreme poverty, Father Aristide answered that the first thing is honesty. He called again for the arrest of Duvalierist leader Roger Lafontant, and expressed a desire to rely on the collaboration of the Army and the people organized in a vigilance brigade to ensure security during elections, and to avoid crooked electoral dealings.

Again the national and international press gathered at the Christopher Hotel to listen to the Avalanche committee present an Aristide plan of government, this time called: The Risk To Be Taken. The plan described what the Aristide government intends to do when elected. Today's program differed from the one presented during the previous press conference called: The Chance That Passes By. The earlier meeting involved the presentation of a campaign platform called: Here Is What Could Be Done if...

In today's program, however, the if was noticeably absent from the vocabularies of both the Avalanche committee and their leader, Jean-Bertrand Aristide. They presented a three-part presidential program to the public: Participation and Organization; Organization of the Economy; and Make People More Respectable So They Can Serve Their Country Better. This is a 40-point global program.

Ernst Verdieu, who was making the Creole presentation, advised that change in the country cannot come from one single person, but must live within every Haitian's heart and head. In Avalanche, priority is given to justice, participation, and openness. [passage omitted] The Avalanche intends to work closely with the press so that things can move forward. The government will regularly provide updates and explanations to the people through journalists. Verdieu denied rumors by Aristide's critics that vengeance would replace justice. [passage omitted]

One of the major points of the Avalanche program is national production. Housecleaning must take place in public administration, which does not mean that people will be arbitrarily pushed out. It does mean that if someone is a government employee, he must justify the money he gets each month. He must work for it.

The FNCD plans to reorganize and strengthen agriculture to create jobs in the countryside, to encourage the small business sector, sometimes called the informal sector, which would be a boon to the poor people of

Haiti. To reorganize and strengthen national production, the people must be well in body and mind. It is therefore a priority to develop national programs for literacy, education, and health. [passage omitted]

Two UN-Team Election Observers Profiled

FL1112193390 Nassau Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 11 Dec 90

[Text] Two Bahamians among hundreds of international observers are expected to monitor general elections in Haiti this coming Sunday. The election is said to be Haiti's first meaningful election in 33 years. The [word indistinct] permanent secretary in the Ministry of Employment and Immigration, and a member of the advisory committee, Mr. Carlton Wright and Miss Marilyn Dronaco [as heard] are among the observers. Mr. Wright says the presence of hundreds of international observers should discourage those elements in the Haitian society opposed to the elections from engaging in any acts of violence. Mr. Wright served as charge d'affairs of the Bahamas Embassy in Port-au-Prince from 1985-1988, and Ms. Dronaco also served in that same post from 1988-89. Mr. Wright will act as an observer for the Organization of American States while Ms. Dronaco will represent the Caribbean Community secretariat where she has been [word indistinct] for six months.

Trinidad and Tobago

Ken Butcher Reiterates Intention To Resign

FL1112174590 Bridgetown CANA in English 1308 GMT 11 Dec 90

[Text] Port of Spain, Trinidad, Dec 11, CANA—Ken Butcher, the parliamentary secretary in the Ministry of Health, says he will be quitting his job at the end of the month.

Butcher recently called for Prime Minister A.N.R. Robinson to step down as leader of the ruling National Alliance for Reconstruction (NAR) in favour of his deputy, Planning Minister Winston Dookeran. He then promised before a meeting of his Barataria/San Juan NAR constituency branch to quit if Robinson was reconfirmed in the top leadership post. Robinson was re-elected unopposed at the NAR annual convention over the weekend.

Attorney General Comments on Budget, U.S.

PA1112131990 Mexico City XHTV Television in Spanish 0200 GMT 30 Nov 90

[Report on statement by Attorney General Enrique Alvarez del Castillo during a swearing-in ceremony for Manuel Gutierrez de Velasco, the new legal consultant for the Attorney General's Office in Mexico City, date not given—passages within quotation marks are recorded]

[Text] Attorney General Enrique Alvarez del Castillo, has said that the federal government will earmark over 230 billion pesos of its budget for fighting drug trafficking.

Sixty percent of the Attorney General's Office 1991 budget, over 230 billion pesos, will be allocated to the fight against drug trafficking; Alvarez said that fighting drug trafficking continues to be a priority issue.

[Alvarez] "We will maintain the same level of determination. We are also adjusting and stabilizing administrative procedures at all levels in order to fully comply with the [words indistinct] next year."

Mr. Alvarez del Castillo made these statements during a swearing-in ceremony for Manuel Gutierrez de Velasco, the new legal consultant for the Attorney General's Office in Mexico City. The new legal consultant replaces Mr. Agustin Tellez Cruces, who was appointed the president's personal representative to the Vatican.

As for the agreements reached with U.S. Attorney General Richard Thornburgh in Monterrey, Alvarez del Castillo emphasized the establishment of a joint commission in which the appropriate authorities from both countries would participate.

[Alvarez] "Obviously each country would work on its own territory, but we will share information and responsibilities in the fight against money laundering and specific organized groups of drug traffickers, both here and in the United States."

PJE Reports Catholic Priest Tortured, Shot

PA1112224190 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2155 GMT 10 Dec 90

[Text] Ciudad Juarez, Chihuahua, 10 Dec (NOTIMEX)—Guillermo Madrigal, a 45-year-old Catholic priest, was assassinated today along with two other persons. The motive for the crime is still unknown, according to the State Judicial Police (PJE).

Regional PJE Commander Refugio Ruvalcaba said that the priest's body was found at 0400 today in a house, which apparently belonged to the other victims, in the Salvarcar neighborhood.

Ruvalcaba said that the priest had been shot in the head and had apparently been tortured. Only a two-year-old boy, who was inside the house, survived.

Ruvalcaba said that [words indistinct] two or more persons, adding that the two other bodies have yet to be identified, but they are presumed to be the surviving boy's parents.

The news caused great distress among the Ciudad Juarez residents because Father Madrigal had dedicated many years of his life to a church in the town of Praxedis G. Guerrero, 40 km from the border.

The priest played an active role in state politics between 1983 and 1985, when the National Action Party (PAN) carried out the so-called "civilian resistance."

He participated, along with former Mayor Francisco Barrios Terrazas, in the takeover of international bridges and a hunger strike at the town square.

Police Commanders, Agents Fired in Chihuahua

PA1112223690 Mexico City XHTV Television in Spanish 0200 GMT 5 Dec 90

[Text] Thirty-five agents and three commanders of the Federal Judicial Police were fired in Chihuahua State. The Attorney General's Office made this announcement in a press communique. The firings were based mainly on continuous reports of abuse of authority, corruption, and human rights violations on the part of these people. The measure was welcomed by human rights groups and various political parties.

The fired commanders served as group leaders in Nuevo Casas Grandes, Ciudad Juarez, and in this state capital. The press communique adds that these individuals are considered dishonest agents but they will not be tried.

Meanwhile, Elias Ramirez, who served as first commander of the Federal Judicial Police in Chihuahua State, will remain on leave while his work as head of this institution is under investigation.

Costa Rica

Niehaus on Free Trade With Mexico, Summit

PA1212005790 San Jose LA NACION in Spanish 1 Dec 90 p 4-A

[Report by Mauricio Martinez S.]

[Text] Central America will promote a free-trade agreement with Mexico within the framework of a commercial cooperation and exchange agreement that will be signed by the presidents of those countries during the meeting to be held in Tuxtla Gutierrez on 10 and 11 January.

Costa Rican Foreign Minister Bernd Niehaus announced this on 30 November, and said that in the beginning the trade liberalization will only include agricultural products.

On the other hand, Niehaus confirmed that the Puntarenas presidential summit will not end on 16 December, as originally scheduled. The closing ceremony will be held on 17 December at 0900.

The establishment of the cooperation agreement was proposed on 29 November by Mexican Foreign Minister Fernando Solana during a meeting held in Honduras with the Central American foreign ministers. Honduras will present a draft for that agreement.

According to Foreign Minister Niehaus, this agreement will contain general aspects and the possibility of other nations of the area joining it will remain open. In that regard Central America will begin steps to establish a free-trade agreement with Mexico.

Niehaus said that he still does not have data on the exact cost of the Puntarenas presidential summit, but recognized that in order to begin the logistic work, they obtained financing from the Foreign Ministry and the Presidency for a little over 4 million colones.

The organizing commission has requested collaboration—in transportation, office equipment, and support personnel—from entities such as the Public Works and Transportation Ministry, the Traffic Department, the National Insurance Institute (INS), and the Costa Rican Tourism Institute (ICT).

The meeting will be held at the Fiesta Hotel and, in the next few hours, it could be decided to use that hotel exclusively for the delegations.

Regarding the Central American presidents' agenda, it was reported that the inauguration ceremony will take place on 15 December at 1500, and the first working session will begin almost immediately. There will be two meetings on 16 December, one in the morning and another in the afternoon. At noon there will be a luncheon on board an ICT yacht.

The foreign minister said he has received verbal confirmation of the attendance of the presidents of the IDB [Inter-American Development Bank] and the Central American Economic Integration Bank (BCIE), Enrique Iglesias and Rolando Ramirez, respectively. OAS Secretary General Joao Baena S. was also invited.

El Salvador

Judge Scores Investigators in Jesuits' Case

PA1112204790 San Salvador EL MUNDO in Spanish 8 Dec 90 p 3

[Text] Yesterday Fourth Criminal Court Justice Ricardo Zamora accused the commission investigating the criminal activities surrounding the Jesuits' case of "not being too serious about doing its work." The charge comes after a year-long investigation in which the commission's findings, previously sent to court, only contain the ballistics test from one of the 32 bullets connected to the Jesuit case.

The judge is of the opinion that the investigative commission, which is composed of officers, has been slow. He said that he will ask for the case to be handled more quickly.

Justice Zamora reported that the tested bullet implicates soldier Jose Roberto Hernandez Rochez because it was fired fron his rifle.

Hernandez Rochez is a member of the Atlacatl Battalion. He has already testified as a witness in the trial, during which he said that he participated in the search at the Jose Simeon Canas Central American University, but not in the killings.

Justice Zamora said he plans to call Hernandez Rochez to the stand again. He would not say whether the results of the ballistics test are enough to order the provisional arrest of the soldier.

The judge said that according to what several soldiers have reported, during the November 1989 rebel offensive there was confusion among the soldiers and sometimes they used each other's weapons.

According to court sources, the involvement of this soldier in the case could give the trial a twist or delay its resolution, which might be a dismissed case—if the request of the defense attorneys is heeded.

Judge Orders Opening of Jesuits' Murder Trial

PA1112223790 San Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA in Spanish 10 Dec 90 p 3

[Text] Fourth Penal Court Judge Ricardo Zamora said that on 7 December he ordered the persons presumed guilty in the Jesuits' murder case to be brought to trial. This includes Colonel Guillermo Alfredo Benavides, who is accused of masterminding the murders.

The judge confirmed his decision to bring to trial the nine military officers charged in the murder of six priests.

Col. Benavides and the other persons charged in the case will face accusations of murder and terrorist acts and will appear before a jury in the next few months, the judged said.

Nevertheless, Judge Zamora said that he had ordered dropped the charges of theft, involving $5,000 which belonged to Father Ignacio Ellacuria, one of the victims. Zamora said that there was no positive evidence that this action was linked to those charged in the murder case. Zamora stated that the official resolution of the Public Prosecutor's Office would be released today. The Public Prosecutor's Office had asked Judge Zamora to bring the case to trial a week ago.

Rivera y Damas on Offensive, Jesuits' Case

PA1112145290 San Salvador La Voz Panamericana in Spanish 1700 GMT 9 Dec 90

[Interview with Archbishop Arturo Rivera y Damas following the Sunday homily at the Sacred Heart Church in San Salvador on 9 December—recorded; broadcast in progress]

[Text] [Rivera y Damas] ...It is something that could have been foreseen, because when the aid was conditioned they also said that if the guerrillas stepped up their actions, there would not be any reduction of the aid. Now that we have seen that military actions have obviously increased, they are speeding up the delivery of the aid that was being withheld. The speeding up of the aid delivery could have been foreseen.

[Reporter] The Society of Jesus said it is disappointed because of the decision to take the Jesuits case before a full court. Father Tojeira specifically said the decision was a result of pressures from the Military High Command and the Americans so that no further investigations could take place. What is your opinion on this?

[Rivera y Damas] The purpose of the trial is to learn the truth. I believe that if their decision to bring the case before a full court is to prevent the truth from being known, Father Tojeira and the Society of Jesus are right to disagree. I would also disagree if that is the reason. On the other hand, however, if it is because the investigations have been completed and the next step in the process remains to be taken, then I would say they should go ahead.

[Reporter] Do you believe one stage has already been completed and the next step has to be taken?

[Rivera y Damas] I hope the judge can make his decision freely, but if he has been pressured... [changes thought] When one is pressured into making a decision, it is not the same, even when the person has the authorization to take the next step.

[Reporter] Do you believe there is an interest in hindering progress in the Jesuits' case?

[Rivera y Damas] I think so, because I have the feeling there is more than one mastermind behind this crime. If the purpose of taking the case before a full court is to stop the investigations, then I believe that is a mistake. If there are more criminals involved, they must also be tried.

[Reporter] [Passage indistinct].

[Rivera y Damas] Of course the war needs economic support. If there is no economic support, I believe it would be easier to seek a negotiated solution. When there is support for the struggle, negotiation is forgotten. In this regard, there is a relation between the aid and the continuation of the war.

[Reporter] [Passage indistinct].

[Rivera y Damas] I do not know if those in the Army also intend to use those sophisticated weapons. Certainly, the use of the missiles is a challenge for them and forces them to reevaluate their fighting methods. I believe this is evident. It is obvious they will seek ways to counteract them.

[Reporter] [Passage indistinct].

[Rivera y Damas] Yes, but I do not think it is directly proportional to the increase in the...[changes thought], but directly proportional to the arguments that may exist. It is a matter of taking the different arguments into consideration, not pressures. In this regard, I believe agreements will be reached at the next meetings. Politicians as well as the mediator are somewhat optimistic.

[Reporter] Both the guerrillas and the government have been threatening the use of military actions. What is the real outlook for this?

[Rivera y Damas] I believe there is talk in this regard, but we have to [words indistinct]. We have to take into account a large part of the population, which does not want more war. This frame of mind must grow until both sides reach the conclusion that the conflict must be solved peacefully.

[Reporter] [Passage indistinct].

[Rivera y Damas] The members of the jury must be carefully chosen. We know that it is a jury trial. Those who are there should not be bribed. They should be chosen according to the law. I believe we must abide by what their consciences dictate. If the whole thing, however, is a setup [words indistinct], it would all be a joke played on the justice system instead.

[Reporter] [Passage indistinct].

[Rivera y Damas] Of course. We would like to hold direct talks with them to see if the time period for the truce can be extended and if there can be a greater opening. We do not want it to be limited to a few places, but to the entire country.

[Reporter] [Passage indistinct].

[Rivera y Damas] No, I am not aware of that, but I imagine it can take place before Christmas. That is just my guess.

Hydroelectric Plant President on FMLN Violence

PA1112134390 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1853 GMT 10 Dec 90

[Text] San Salvador, 10 Dec (NOTIMEX)—Retired Colonel Sigifredo Ochoa, the president of the Lempa River Hydroelectric Executive Commission, said today that the government of Alfredo Cristiani will end the Salvadoran war "in one way or another" soon.

In an interview with NOTIMEX, the official condemned the increased military actions by the guerrillas and said their position prompted the government to "make different decisions" and forced the Armed Forces to "reconsider its position."

Ochoa said that President Cristiani wants to end the war through negotiations. He noted, however, that the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front (FMLN) "confuses flexibility and deliberation with weakness."

"Violence will provoke more bloodshed than in the past. There are, however, times when a decision must be made," Ochoa said.

The retired colonel said: "We will have no other option but to employ our military might if the methods for attaining peace are exhausted." He added: "The president wants to end the war in one way or in another."

Regarding the FMLN offensive launched 20 days ago, Cristiani has reaffirmed his government's political will, but warned that "his patience has a limit."

According to the FMLN, the objective of its new operation is to force the government to negotiate the Armed Forces's future. This topic is the most controversial point on the agenda, which both parties agreed to discuss when the peace process started in May.

Ochoa admitted that "individual Armed Forces members have made mistakes and committed crimes and must be punished." He said, however, that "the institution is undergoing very positive changes in regard to subordinating itself to civilian rule."

"The disappearance of the Armed Forces is not a matter to be negotiated, but the search for mechanisms that will purge and restructure it are," he added.

Ochoa, who is also a leader of the ruling Nationalist Republican Alliance, said that sabotaging the energy system should be included in the negotiations.

In the past three weeks, sabotage has resulted in $5 million worth of losses and energy had to be rationed for up to five hours a day in San Salvador and in the eastern part of the country.

Today, nine power lines and four alternate lines are not operational and Ochoa indicated that the damage would result in a [figure indistinct] percent energy loss during the day and an even higher percentage during the night.

According to official information, approximately $50 million has been lost due to these actions during the 10-year war.

Ochoa said that the increasing FMLN sabotage actions "have a negative political effect on their group because they do not affect businessmen, but the people."

Guatemala

Congress Condemns Massacre, Demands Investigation

PA1112154990 Guatemala City EL GRAFICO in Spanish 5 Dec 90 p 2

[Resolution issued by the Congress of the Republic in Guatemala City on 4 December]

[Text] Whereas:

The bloody events in Santiago Atitlan, Solola Department, occurred in the country so the state of Guatemala cannot remain indifferent concerning these deplorable events, and, therefore, it must assume its full responsibility and protect the social, moral, and cultural values for which it exists as such.

Therefore:

To defend the people's legitimate rights and seek the enforcement of human rights.

Resolves:

1. To strongly condemn the Indian massacre that occurred in the town of Santiago Atitlan, Solola Department—a criminal action which brings mourning to all the Guatemalan population.

2. To demand that the government of the Republic—specifically the national defense minister—promptly clear the case up and strictly enforce the law against the culprits.

3. To offer all the support and cooperation of the Human Rights Attorney General's Office so that an investigation can be conducted concerning in this deplorable case.

4. To provide economic compensation to the families affected by the massacre.

5. To state our solidarity with the people of Santiago Atitlan in their moments of sorrow and mourning and with their demand that the military detachment be withdrawn from the town.

Issued at the Legislative Palace on 4 December 1990.

Bolanos on Measures After Massacre

PA1212020090 Guatemala City Teleonce Television in Spanish 0400 GMT 7 Dec 90

[Text] Defense Minister Juan Leonel Bolanos Chavez said in a news conference that authorities have already identified the two main culprits responsible for the deaths of 13 peasants on Sunday 2 December in Santiago Atitlan. He explained the Army's views on the event:

[Begin Bolanos recording] The necessary investigation was immediately ordered and preliminary results show that Lieutenant Jose Antonio Ortiz Rodriguez, a member of the Infantry Reserve Forces who was in charge of the Panabaj Military Detachment in Santiago Atitlan, and Master Sergeant Efrain Garcia Gonzalez are responsible because they provoked the incident. Legal action has been taken against them because they committed a punishable crime. The appropriate courts will handle the case.

The Guatemalan people will realize that the National Defense Ministry has acted—in the past and in this specific instance—in a controlled, calm, and agreeable manner. The ministry believes that the entire institution cannot and must not be condemned for the irresponsible attitude of two of its members because it has fulfilled—throughout its existence and particularly for the past 30 years—the mission it is entrusted with by the political constitution of the Republic. The Defense Ministry has strived and exerted itself to the utmost to guarantee a framework of peace and security because it is convinced that the latter are essential to the country's institutional life. It can be objectively said that the Army has helped achieve the conditions for Guatemala's current democratic process. All this is aimed at promoting the people's welfare and the state's survival. The goals reached in 1990 can be thus objectively analyzed.

Given the tragic events which occurred in Santiago Atitlan on 2 December, the Army's high command is the first to condemn this deplorable event. The National Defense Ministry clearly states that the Guatemalan Army strictly abides by the constitutional, ethical, moral, and doctrinal precepts which rule military conduct and professional leadership.

We therefore inform the Guatemalan people and the international community that the culprits will be duly tried according to laws that will be issued in due time by the appropriate courts. In other words, this declaration emphasizes the decision to enforce the laws of the Republic and the determination not to protect persons or to withhold evidence on events, persons, or circumstances that are considered a misdemeanor or crime.

The responsible and serious opinions issued by state enterprises, private citizens, national and international legal institutions, and members of the press who state their concern about this deplorable incident are valued.

The opinions and positions assumed by certain private citizens, however, are categorically rejected because they take advantage of the freedom of thought and claim that they represent institutions which are clearly illegal, because they lack the appropriate legal status. They lack the necessary legality, representation, and legitimacy. They clearly go along with groups that have opposed and attacked the Guatemalan Army for three decades.

According to specific instructions from His Excellency, the president of the Republic of Guatemala and commander general of the Army, as proof of the Armed Forces' goodwill—but without implying weakness or indifference—the military detachment of Panabaj will be transferred to a place that will be chosen in due time within the jurisdiction of the 14th Military Zone, which has its headquarters in Solola, because the problems caused by terrorist criminals in surrounding areas still prevail.

We hereby reassert to the Armed Forces' military personnel the Army command's decision to enforce and respect the political constitution of the Republic and the valid laws and regulations which apply to the case. Prevention and control measures will continue throughout the national territory so that the people may vote freely in the upcoming 6 January 1991 elections to choose the next constitutional president of the Republic. Consequently, the people are urged to remain firm in their role as civilians in defending the state. [end recording]

Cerezo Calls Massacre 'Tragic'

PA1112180190 Guatemala City SIGLO VEINTINUNO in Spanish 8 Dec 90 p 3

[Text] "It was a tragic circumstance and we cannot blame institutions; we must blame the past and the people who perpetrated the crime," said President Vinicio Cerezo Arevalo, commenting on the violent events in Santiago Atitlan that left 13 Zutuhil Indians dead and 19 wounded. The Guatemalan Army has taken the responsibility for the crime.

Cerezo added that "the recent violence in Santiago Atitlan was prompted by past tensions experienced in that municipality, and when one examines violence in certain areas of the country one must take into consideration that the existence of armed groups that attack and take up arms against the state renders the government's presence throughout the state necessary, and this causes tension."

"This troublesome past caused a tragedy in Santiago Atitlan that I regret and would describe as incidental. It has not been an institutional act on the part of the Army, which has been careful to protect and maintain the nation's security," the president emphasized.

Cerezo said that "the Army has been respectful of constitutional rights, and now finds itself involved in a circumstance caused by the actions or errors of a few of its members; therefore, we must blame circumstances and individuals, not institutions."

"To relieve the tension and demonstrate the government's and Army's goodwill in resolving problems such as this one, we have continued the investigation and we have already caught some of the alleged perpetrators. We have also decided to transfer the detachment to avoid heightening tension in the area," Cerezo added.

"We must remember that public demonstrations must be carried out between 0600 and 1800 because these types of incidents can occur."

Referring to international reaction to the incident, President Cerezo Arevalo said that "when they see the government's attitude, when they see that we are not trying to conceal anything, that we are accepting individual responsibility, and that we are making a concession to the public, international reaction will have to acknowledge the government's political resolve and that of its institutions, including the Army, in ensuring respect for the law and the restoration of respect for the law when the law is violated."

President Cerezo Arevalo announced that legal action will be taken against the rural transportation businessmen for the damages and injury they are inflicting on the population by not providing their services.

The transportation workers' attempts to exert pressure on the government has proven harmful to the people, and the government is going to sanction them. In the end the transportation workers will be the losers, the president said.

Cerezo said that there will be warnings, fines, and trials against the transportation workers who do not do their jobs or who do not heed the law. "Either they meet their responsibilities or begin to suffer the sanctions established by the law," he said.

Meanwhile, Cerezo said, any time fuel prices are altered there is unjustified speculation concerning increased staple product prices.

This time prices may increase to the extent that production costs have increased due to the effects of the new fuel prices.

Transportation Sector Told To Resume Services

PA1112134090 Guatemala City PRENSA LIBRE in Spanish 8 Dec pp 2, 63

[Text] On 7 December President Vinicio Cerezo sternly warned the rural transportation sector to resume services to the interior of the country, adding that if they maintain their current position they will be punished in accordance with the law.

Cerezo explained that the transportation workers are taking advantage of the present circumstances to carry out unlimited fare increases. The Economy Ministry has established tariffs and the transportation workers must do their job or face the sanctions established by the law for cases such as these, he said.

Rural transportation is not operating, dialogue with the Transportation Coordinating Board's directorate is continuing, and the sanctions imposed by the law will be implemented as of 10 December, Cerezo said.

The initial warnings were issued on 7 December. After that, the negligent drivers will be fined. In addition, they will stand trial for failing to fulfill their duties, their licenses will be suspended, and other transportation workers will be authorized to work in our country.

The transportation workers are harming the people in order to exert pressure on the government. They will be punished and in the end, they will be the ones with problems because they may lose their businesses, he said.

President Cerezo concluded his statements by remarking that any time fuel prices are raised there is speculation to the effect that the private sector will increase the prices of staple products, in response to which the government is once again making efforts to control the situation.

Poll Shows Serrano Leading With 48 Percent

PA1112191390 Guatemala City SIGLO VEINTIUNO in Spanish 6 Dec 90 p 3

[Text] The Chamber of Free Enterprise (CLE) held a news conference last night at a local hotel to report on the results of its first poll on the second round of the presidential elections. The second round is scheduled for 6 January 1991.

According to the poll, Jorge Serrano Elias of the Solidarity Action Movement is ahead—with 48 percent of the net national vote—of his rival Jorge Carpio Nicolle of the Union of the National Center

CLE President Dionisio Gutierrez reported on the first poll, taken between from 26 November and 1 December.

The political and sociological studies enterprise "Mora, Araujo, Noguera and Associates, of Buenos Aires, Argentina, conducted the poll using people 18 years and older.

The poll of 2,420 people, 500 from Guatemala City, and the other 1,920 from municipalities throughout the country, offers a margin of two percent error and is 95 percent reliable.

The pollsters used copies of voting tickets with the pictures of the two presidential candidates and their running mates with the party names and symbols.

The national total used to determine the net poll was 2,186 with 1,440 in rural areas. [sentence as published]

CLE warned that the results of the poll are by no means a preview of the January elections, but rather a report on how people say they will vote. At the beginning of the news conference, CLE President Dionisio Gutierrez bitterly criticized the Christian Democratic government.

He acused the government of having plunged the people into despair and disappointment. He said that the government is a "champion of demagoguery" and that its followers are "shameless."

Gutierrez said that the government is going to leave the country "in poverty and ruin," with a 100 percent inflation rate, a disastrous fiscal deficit, and a deteriorated international image.

He referred to the violations of human rights, claiming that the country is now on an international blacklist as a drug producer and trafficker and is regarded as "dangerous" for foreign tourists.

Gutierrez said that CLE rejects the climate of politization and that the church and politicians should not create problems. He also said that the next president should choose the best qualified men and women for his government.

He said that in the first 100 days the new government should lay the foundation for the nation's recovery and the fight against corruption.

Gutierrez concluded by saying that the government should privatize state monopolies and promote adequate constitutional amendments to meet the poorer people's needs, with honesty, effort, truth, justice, dignity and patriotism in a legal regime with respect for law and order.

New Chief for Information, Press Appointed

PA1112131690 Guatemala City SIGLO VEINTIUNO in Spanish 4 Dec 90 p 4

[Text] Deputy Defense Minister General Raul Molina Bedoya swore in Colonel Edgar Leonel Ortega Rivas as the new chief of the Armed Forces Information and Press Department [DIDE] on 3 December. Ortega Rivas replaced Colonel Carlos Fernando Duran.

In accepting the post, Col. Ortega Rivas highlighted the importance of DIDE's work, saying that it "requires assigned qualified technical personnel to give their full attention and effort."

The deputy defense minister said that the Army command staff had ordered the change at the DIDE.

Nicaragua

Antonio Lacayo Reviews Spain, France Visits

PA1212033490 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1426 GMT 6 Dec 90

[Statement issued by Presidency Minister Antonio Lacayo on his return from Spain and France at Managua Airport; date not given—recorded]

[Text] I would like to briefly report on the double mission that I conducted on the orders of President Chamorro during this last week.

First, in Madrid, I met with Spanish President Felipe Gonzalez, Foreign Minister Francisco Fernandez Ordonez, and Defense Minister Narciso Serra. We spoke with frankness and friendliness, which characterize relations between Nicaragua and Spain. As a result of these three meetings, we obtained a commitment from the Spanish President to deal with our debt to Spain in terms similar to those we obtained in the renegotiation of our debt with Venezuela. Nicaragua's virtual impossibiiity of paying the bilateral debt, as stated in the national concerted agreement, was admitted.

We also obtained the commitment to unfreeze the disbursement of three important credits that Spain had offered Nicaragua [seven-second break in transmission] for the renegotiation of our debt, which were withdrawn from the renegotiation at our request. Even though the debt renegotiaton might take two or three months, these credits could be released by Spain now. These credits, amounting to about $40 million, would serve to bolster three important projects: first, the development of shrimp-breeding installations in the Gulf of Fonseca to breed shrimp in Nicaragua for the first time. Second, they will permit the irrigation of many manzanas in the area of the San Antonio sugar mill in Chinandega. Third, they will enable the Construction and Transportation Ministry to import about 150 buses to improve city transportation.

We also managed to speed the disbursement of $5 million that the Spanish Government had offered for the program to reduce the Army, specifically the program to lay off the 5,000 officers who were retired last week. We also obtained assurances from the Spanish president and the defense minister to establish relations between the Sandinist People's Army and the Spanish Army. This way, our Army will learn from the experience of an army that for the last 15 years has been at the service of a political force and party serving democracy. This relationship will also allow the Nicaraguan Army to obtain basic supplies in its new role of a peacetime army as decreed by the president of the Republic.

In Janaury, a mission from the Spanish Defense Ministry will come to Nicaragua to inquire about the nonoffensive needs of the Nicaraguan Army, and to try to establish the means to carry out this cooperation.

In addition to the meetings with the government officials mentioned above, we also held very friendly and frank talks with the Spanish Socialist Workers Party, PSOE, and with Jose Maria Aznar of the Popular Party, which is the second political force in Spain. We also met with Monsignor Mario Tagliaferri, the Apostolic Nuncio of the Holy See in Spain, who was very interested in learning about the situation in Nicaragua, especially the relations between our government and the church.

I later traveled to Paris to head the Nicaraguan delegation, composed of the finance minister, the economy and development minister, Central Bank President Luis Sanchez Sancho, who represented the parties that compose UNO [National Opposition Union], and Dr. Sergio Ramirez, who represents the Nicaraguan political opposition.

We attended the first meeting of the advisory group for Nicaragua, headed by the World Bank. This group was created in Rome last June to support Nicaragua in requesting contributions from the international community to pay for its overdue debts with the World Bank and the Inter-American Development Bank. The purpose of the meeting was to inform potential donors from the international community of the progress made by the Nicaraguan Government in the development of its economic programs and its political work in general.

We also wanted to tell them about the urgency to pay off our overdue debts with the World Bank and the Inter-American Development Bank, which add up to $350 million. We hope this amount can be paid off as soon as possible in 1991 so that Nicaragua can once again have access to credit from the World Bank and the Inter-American Development Bank.

Taiwanese Official Comments on Aid, Investments

PA1112131790 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 2 Dec 90 p 5

[Text] Chen Chien-Jen, Taiwanese deputy foreign minister, has said that his country is willing to provide assistance to the Nicaraguan Government in four specific areas—namely, agriculture, investments, supporting the programs for retired officers of the Sandinist People's Army and demobilized contras, and economic aid to lessen the foreign debt burden. On 1 December, he ended a three-day visit to Nicaragua. He was accompanied by a delegation of Taiwanese businessmen.

Chien-Jen said that "Nicaragua offers very favorable conditions for foreign investments," adding that the Taiwanese businessmen who accompanied him "are very satisfied and willing to invest right away" in Nicaragua "in the areas that will be decided after their visit." It has been discovered that one plan being considered is the installation of an industrial free zone similar to those that existed before 1979.

Mayors' Group Requests Cut in Military Budget

PA1112154890 Managua LA PRENSA in Spanish 3 Dec 90 pp 1, 12

[Report by Roger Suarez M.]

[Text] The members of the "Let Us Save Democracy" Movement, who met on 2 December in the offices of the Conapro [National Confederation of Professional Associations], have publicly asked UNO [National Opposition Union] deputies to vote for a drastic reduction in the military budget of the country at the National Assembly.

On 2 December the members of the "Let Us Save Democracy" Movement asked mayors and Nicaraguan politicians to request the creation of regional support committees for the aforementioned organization throughout the country.

Juigalpa Mayor Isaac Deleo; Region 5 Deputy Humberto Castilla; and Roger Garcia Rios [not further identified], urged participants to act quickly to create these support committees to strengthen democracy and the government of President Violeta de Chamorro.

The speakers at the meeting asked UNO deputies and the Chamorro government not to let themselves be blackmailed by members of the Sandinist party, who have said publicly that if the military budget is cut there will be chaos in the country.

Santo Tomas Mayor Marina Vargas said that those who brought the new leaders of Nicaragua to power "are willing to support them in whatever way is necessary," if the Sandinists try to destabilize the government.

Approximately 100 people attended the meeting at the Conapro offices, including mayors from all over the country. Managua Mayor Arnoldo Aleman said that the creation of a federation of UNO mayors throughout Nicaragua would be completed soon.

In his speech, Aleman said that all Nicaraguans should help consolidate democracy, adding that this task was not for the mayors alone.

Aleman further added that just as mayors are becoming organized throughout Nicaragua, the deputies should also get organized to contribute their best to democracy.

For a moment, there was confusion at the meeting when some deputies thought that Aleman was in disagreement with the consolidation of the "Let Us Save Democracy" Movement. Later, Aleman explained that he supported the creation of the regional committees to support that organization, but emphasized that one should understand that these committees did not represent the federation of mayors that is being formed and will soon have legal status.

In a speech at the meeting, Dr. Alberto Saborio [not further identified] said that the movement for which they requested support from all Nicaraguans was an organization that originated from below—namely, the civil society, which supports democracy.

Saborio said that "the government has frozen the democratization process," by keeping the structures of the previous government intact. "That is why such cases like that of Aristides Sanchez take place in Nicaragua," he noted.

Dr. Alberto Saborio criticized the behavior of some UNO deputies at the National Assembly because sectarian and selfish interests have openly prevented them from working on bills that will improve democracy. He said that under the existing legal system democracy will not flourish.

He added that the democratic process in Nicaragua will reach a stalemate if the civilian society does not exert pressure. "The military budget is being closely analyzed because pressure has been exerted," he said.

At the end of the meeting a commission prepared a statement in which the "Let Us Save Democracy" movement asked the UNO deputies to carry out a united and concerted action to make the achievement of democratization possible.

The commission members quoted Dr. Saborio's words and demanded that the UNO deputies "allow democracy to succeed, as promised to the Nicaraguan people," and to allow "the Nicaraguan people to reconcile within the framework of their democratic values, as established in the UNO platform."

The members of the movement said that the demands presented at Muelle de los Bueyes are still awaiting compliance, and added: "We trust that the pledges made by President Chamorro on 21 November in Juigalpa will be duly fulfilled."

The movement's members also requested an explanation concerning the murders which occurred in La Sabana, Yolaina, Nueva Guinea, Montelimar, and the murders of Juan Paul Genie and others.

They insisted that the police must investigate cattle rustlings, particularly the theft of a herd in Acoyapa, where a police officer is presumed to be the guilty party.

The movement's statement asked "the country's mayors to organize themselves in their regions to create the National Mayors' Federation and regional 'Let Us Save Democracy' commissions."

Panama

U.S. Accused of 'Blackmail' in Foiled Coup

PA1112235190 Panama City EL SIGLO in Spanish 8 Dec 90 p 12

[Article by Eric Arce]

[Text] Independent Lawyers' Association [Frai] President Carlos Jones has told EL SIGLO: "It is important to remember history. When Panama obtained its independence from Colombia, this independence was consolidated by the battleship Wisconsin's cannons. History has a way of repeating itself. At that time it was Victoriano Lorenzo who was the scapegoat, and today it is Eduardo Herrera, under the same circumstances. We are threatened with signing the Mutual Legal Assistance Treaty or letting Herrera take over Panamanian democracy."

The Frai leader makes reference to the recent events resulting from the labor strike and the former Public Force director Herrera's escape from Naos prison. Jones said: "History is full of experiences involving U.S.-Panama relations. I have no way of proving it—neither do the other people who voice their opinion on what has happened—but I feel the United States is sending us a message. The United States is making its presence in Panama indispensable. The U.S. message is: If we do not intervene, the Panamanian democratic government could be ousted. By the same token, if Panama does not sign the Mutual Legal Assistance Treaty the United States could be forced to encourage these rebellions or we could withdraw our troops.

"This is a kind of political blackmail, which not only occurs in Panama but in all parts of the world. We Panamanians should not fall into this trap, as Eduardo Herrera should not have fallen into this trap."

Carlos Jones, well-known lawyer and labor leader, said: "As a Panamanian nationalist I must condemn the participation of the U.S. troops in our problems, although I respect the government's decision to call them in." Jones added: "This experience should serve to undertake a national dialogue, without deceptiveness. This dialogue should be held, not with the national and international economically strong sectors, but rather with sectors that democratically have a bearing on Panama's everyday life and its development. I am talking about the popular sectors, the labor sectors. If we do not face this reality we are heading toward permanent confrontations, and there will be no peace in this country."

Jones stated: "I can personally vouch for the labor leaders, particularly Isaac Rodriguez—my friend and client—who up until the last moment tried to engage in a dialogue to avoid the strike. Under no circumstances can I deny that Isaac Rodriguez tried to engage in dialogue. I can vouch for Rodriguez that he told a high-ranking government official that if there was a dialogue the strike and the march would be called off. The workers' top priority was to obtain their 13-month bonus or to sit down and negotiate the labor sector's demands."

In conclusion, Jones said: "There are internal enemies within the government who hate the labor sector and the lower classes. These enemies will do anything to quiet these voices of protests; the media even tried linking the strike to the coup attempt, if there ever was a coup attempt."

Lawyer Scores Bush on Troops' Stay in Panama

PA1212042990 Panama City Radio KW Continente in Spanish 1200 GMT 11 Dec 90

[Text] Regarding U.S. President George Bush's recent statements in Caracas that the U.S. troops stationed in Panama do not have a set date for their departure from Panama, Panamanian lawyer Carlos Lopez Guevara, former Torrijos-Carter Treaty negotiator, said:

[Begin Lopez recording] What is really important here is that the Panamanian Government must respond to President Bush's statements. Those statements should be repudiated by our government, because the Panama Canal Treaties compel the United States to withdraw its troops at noon on 31 December 1999, which is a specific date.

It is regrettable to see President Bush imposing a condition that is not established in any treaty. I personally regret that current Panamanian Government officials—who fought the Torrijos-Carter Treaties because, according to them, the treaties gave the United States the right to unilaterally interfere in Panama—could have called on the U.S. Government to solve an unimportant conflict in Panama. As we can see, those officials were not sincere when they criticized the treaties.

The Panamanian foreign minister himself has repeatedly stated that he never said the United States has the right to unilaterally interfere in Panama.

[Words indistinct] no treaty gives the United States the right to interfere in Panama. On the contrary, the treaties are vigorously anti-interventionist just as much as the UN and OAS Charters are. Therefore, no country can assume the right to interfere unilaterally in another country. Panamanians must be clearly aware of that. Panamanians should also be very aware of the fact that it is an act of political immaturity to call on another country to interfere in Panama. This action sends us back to the early stages of our republican life. For this reason the Panamanian people, who are nationalistic people, have repudiated that action. [end recording]

As for the possible struggle between public employees and labor union representatives, Lopez Guevara said that good sense should prevail for the moment.

[Begin Lopez recording] Political maturity, good sense, and good judgement advise that the bill on the workers problem should be withdrawn from the Legislative Assembly. The workers, the private sector, and the government should resume their negotiations, because Panamanians should be able to come to some understanding. We should not allow the breaking of Panamanian society. That would be extremely regrettable. I call for reconciliation. I urge the government and all of the country's groups to join in an effort of fraternity and reconciliation. That is what Panama needs. Panama needs stability, peace, and jobs for all Panamanians. [end recording]

Guatemalan Embassy Refugees Granted Safe-Conduct

PA1112230290 Panama City Radio KW Continente in Spanish 2158 GMT 11 Dec 90

[Communique issued by Foreign Ministry in Panama City on 11 December—read by reporter Jenny Lee Martinez]

[Text] 1. Through diplomatic notes No. 742 0290 C-51 and 738 0990 C-51 of 6 and 7 December 1990 the Honorable Embassy of the Republic of Guatemala granted provisional asylum to Captain Rafael Jurado Castillo, Sublieutenant Carlos Rumbo Perez, and Sublieutenant Dario Cabezas del Cid, who participated in the coup attempt directed by Colonel Eduardo Herrera Hassan.

2. The crimes which the aforementioned refugees have been charged with are clearly of a political nature, as they were directed against the state's security.

3. In view of the above and based on the Caracas Convention of 24 March 1954 on diplomatic asylum, the Foreign Ministry has granted safe-conduct to the aforementioned refugees so that they may leave the national territory with guarantees that Panamanian authorities will respect their physical integrity and liberty.

Panama, 11 December 1990.

Endara Charged With 'Abuse of Authority'

PA1112174590 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 11 Dec 90 p 30 A

[Article by Jose Quintero de Leon]

[Text] Yesterday lawyer Gilberto Javier Medina Alzamora filed a writ at the Legislative Assembly Presidency accusing President Guillermo Endara Galimany of abusing his authority as president of the Republic.

The writ—which will be sent to the Credentials, Internal Justice, and Internal Affairs Commission—says that the abuse of authority occurred during the U.S. Army's armed intervention on 5 December to control the "rebellion" of Colonel Eduardo Herrera H. (ret.) and his followers.

Doctor Medina Alzamora quoted the national Constitution and said that it does not authorize the president of the Republic to allow or accept the intervention of foreign troops in the Republic and, therefore, the president has abused his authority by accepting, allowing, or requesting the said intervention.

He also said that no agreement exists that authorizes the troops from the United States or any other country to intervene in Panama, because the Torrijos-Carter Treaties only foresee the U.S. Armed Forces' participation in case the canal's security is jeopardized.

The writ added that, as supreme commander of the Public Force, the president of the Republic could have used its coercive force to counter any action aimed at disrupting public order and threatening peace, and also, he could have even decreed a state of emergency.

20 Officers Involved in 5 Dec Events Fired

PA1112202090 Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish 11 Dec 90 pp 1, A 2

[Text] It was reported yesterday that 20 Public Force officers involved in the attempted coup by former Colonel Eduardo Herrera have been fired.

Public Force Director Ibrahim Asvat, who made the announcement, said that besides Col. Herrera, a major, six captains, five sublieutenants, and one sergeant are being held on orders from the Attorney General's Office.

Majors Horly Barret and Carlos Acosta, and Captain Tomas Garcia have also been fired for "irresponsibility and negligence in their duties."

Besides Col. Herrera, the following are being held on orders from the Attorney General's Office:

Major Cesar Cordero; Captains Fidel Oro S., Tomas Harron de Diego, Reinaldo Cedeno, Luis Donadio, Tomas Valdes, and Carlos Cerezo;

Lieutenants Isaac Bedolla Castaneda, Adolfo Castillo, Carlos Perez de Icaza, Samuel Berry T., Uria Grau F., and Zoroel Diaz Herrera, the latter being a newphew of former Colonel Roberto Diaz Herrera;

Sublieutenants Marcos Arosemena, Aquiles Anque, Narci Carrera, Ricardo Herrera Urena, Roberto Correa, and Sergeant Erasmo Marciaga.

Labor Leaders Call Dismissals Law 'Hitler-Like'

PA1212035890 Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA 8 Dec 90 pp 1, A-2

[Article by James Aparicio]

[Text] The principal advisers of the National Coordinating Board for the Right to Life, the trade union responsible for the 5 December national strike, have termed the draft bill that President Guillermo Endara sent to the National Assembly "Hitler-like." This draft bill is to authorize the dismissal of public employees and labor leaders involved in the strike.

"This is just an excuse to fire and intimidate the workers," said Basilio Chong, a lawyer with 25 years of experience on labor issues.

Chong termed the draft bill approved by the cabinet as being taken out of a "Gabriel Garcia Marquez novel."

Robert Cogley, a lawyer, said that the draft bill violates six articles of the Constitution with reference to the rights to liberty, to assemble, to mobilize, freedom of speech, labor union rights, maternity rights, and the nonenforcement of retroactive laws.

Endara announced on 6 December the plan to dismiss all those who organized, participated in, or fostered the strike, because it was linked to the rebellion prompted by Colonel Eduardo Herrera. This rebellion was quelled by U.S. troops.

Cogley said that Endara was violating international agreements and said: "This draft bill appears to stem from a dictatorial regime."

Rolando Miller, a spokesman from the Coordinating Board and secretary general of the Intel [National Institute of Telecommunications] labor union, has claimed that approximately 50,000 government workers supported the strike.

Santander Tristan, another labor advocate, warned that the Constitution prohibits "the persecution of persons or companies," as this "goes against democratic principles."

Tristan added that the draft bill presented by Endara to dismiss public workers for their participation in the strike, "is antidemocratic, antinational, inhuman, and violates the Constitution."

Miller charged that at the IDAAN [National Water and Sanitation Institute] labor leaders Miguel Prado, Nicolas Soto, Marco Guerrero, Adela Gondola, and Ernesto Walker were dismissed. Likewise, at the national railroads labor union, five other leaders as well as the secretary general were dismissed.

The Coordinating Board will hold a national assembly on 18 December to adopt new measures, because "the government does not want negotiation or reconciliation, it wants confrontation," Miller said.

Ford on Firing Strikers, Legal Assistance Treaty

PA1112131290 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 2325 GMT 10 Dec 90

[Text] Guillermo Ford, second vice president and planning minister, reported today that the executive branch has issued instructions to fire the people who instigated the 4 December march and the 5 December strike.

[Begin recording] [Ford] All the directors of the autonomous institutions, as well as the ministers, were instructed today to enforce a resolution that calls for the people who participated in the organization and execution of the strike—not necessarily those who participated in the strike, there is a difference between the two,—to be fired today.

[Reporter] Mr. Vice President, regarding the Mutual Legal Assistance Treaty, has it been decided when the parties will meet again?

[Ford] The foreign minister is handling this matter. To tell you the truth, I do not have any new information. I would prefer that you consult the foreign minister. He and the president are handling this matter exclusively.

[Reporter] Do the parties concur on the terms of the treaty?

[Ford] I think there has always been a consensus in the sense that Panama does not oppose this type of treaty being signed. Panama, however, must stipulate how far it wants to go with this treaty and the foreign minister must decide this. [end recording]

Cabinet Said To Approve Dismissing 400 Workers

PA1112161890 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 11 Dec 90 p 1 A

[Text] A source who prefers to remain unidentified told LA PRENSA last night that the Cabinet Council agreed yesterday to dismiss 400 people who had participated in the strike.

The source said that the cabinet met yesterday morning and resolved to issue instructions to directors of certain autonomous enterprises so that they would move to dismiss the people who participated in the strike.

The enterprises mentioned include the Institute of Hydraulic Resources and Electrification, the National Institute of Telecommunications, and the National Port Authority.

Rodriguez, 150 Workers Fired

PA1112224690 Panama City Radio KW Continente in Spanish 2155 GMT 11 Dec 90

[Report by Celso Contreras]

[Text] A few minutes ago, Jorge de La Guardia, director of the Institute of Hydraulic Resources and Electrification [IRHE], told this radio station that Panamanian labor leader Isaac Rodriguez and approximately 150 IRHE employees have officially been dismissed. The situation at IRHE has now become worrisome. We interviewed other IRHE workers who said they do not know what measures the workers will adopt in view of the official dismissal of these employees.

Following are statements by IRHE Director de la Guardia:

[Begin De la Guardia recording] We have dismissed 150 IRHE workers and that is the final number of dismissals. We informed the workers between yesterday and today. Mr. Isaac Rodriguez is one of the employees who have been dismissed along with many other labor leaders. The reason for the dismissals is the workers' participation in organizing the 5 December strike. In addition, some of these employees not only organized but went ahead with the strike knowing that an attempted coup was taking place in the country that day.

The president's guidelines have been very clear and specific. We believe that the number of people dismissed is still small, because IRHE has 5,000 employees. I repeat that we were very pleased to see that most of the IRHE employees came to work on 5 December. [end recording]

We want to add that all of the state labor unions and coordinating boards will begin a meeting at the Journalists Association headquarters in a few minutes to assess the dismissal situation at the various government institutions.

Rebels Said To Have 'Contact' With Public Force

PA1212025190 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0030 GMT 12 Dec 90

[Text] Panama City, 11 Dec (ACAN-EFE)—A man who identified himself as Captain Asuncion Eliecer Gaytan, former bodyguard for deposed General Manuel Antonio Noriega, called a Panamanian radio station today to announce that he has a column of 250 armed men ready to carry out actions in various parts of the country.

"This is Captain Asuncion Eliecer Gaytan, who is part of the group of rebel soldiers. We are determined to fight until the end," the man said in a phone call to "Radio Ancon."

Panamanian journalists confirmed that the voice actually sounded like Gaytan, who sought refuge at the Apostolic Nunciature following the U.S. invasion in December and left that diplomatic mission three months ago.

When asked to comment on the subject, First Vice President Ricardo Arias Calderon said that he had "nothing to say regarding that matter."

The man who called the radio station said that the rebel soldiers already had "contact" with members of the Panamanian Public Forces in Cerro Azul, east of the capital, and that they will soon conduct operations in Santiago, David, and other cities in the interior of the country.

The announcement was made one week after U.S. troops quelled a rebellion by approximately 100 Panamanian policemen commanded by Retired Colonel Eduardo Herrera .

Argentina

Civilians Arrested in Military Rebellion Named

PY1112173690 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1635 GMT 11 Dec 90

[Text] Buenos Aires, 11 Dec (TELAM)—The names of 80 civilian and military personnel who are being tried by Judge Miguel Pons under charges of being involved in the 3 December rebellion were made known this afternoon.

The judge is awaiting the return of the case's dossier after the Federal Chamber ratified, on 10 December, the civilian sphere's competence to try both military men and civilians. The judge also lifted the incommunicado condition of the accused, and has summoned former Lieutenant Colonel Aldo Rico to give evidence this afternoon at 1800 [2000 GMT].

Following are the names of the arrested civilians who were captured during the incidents in the Patricios Regiment and the Coast Guard Building, and who are now lodged in the Caseros and Villa Devoto Security Prisons:

Alicia Dor Chiesa, Juan Navarro, Claudio Marcelo Alvarado, Omar Unzue, Juan Jose Dipp, Carlos Alberto Rodriguez, Oscar Antonio Insaurralde, Priest Luis Moises Jardin, Jorge Adolfo di Napoli, Ruben Cesar D'Ambrosio, Carlos Salazar, Ivan Ulises Valda Ochea, Manuel Marin, Jorge Gonzalo Alvial, Hugo Alberto Torna, Raul Osvaldo Buela, Adolfo Americo Lustzak, Daniel Benini, Angel Bernabe Rivera, and Carlos Silva, all civilians.

The following are the names of the Coast Guard NCO's [noncommissioned officers] that have been arrested:

Oscar Antonio Balmaceda, Sergio Mateo Escalante, Hector Raymundo, Ramon Natalio Benites, Angel Oscar Roman, Carlos Alberto Haedo, Oscar Osvaldo Zayago, Gregorio Tomas Alvarez, Gustavo Ismael Herres, Victor Hugo Zamudio, Daniel Oscar Piris, Juan Carlos Rolon, Carlos Ruben Striker, Roberto Santillan, Luis Rodolfo Navide, Carlos Alberto Sandoval, Hugo Ezequiel Correa, Pablo Dante Cordoba, and Sergio Romero.

The following are also under arrest: Gustavo Osvaldo Chaves, Osvaldo Francisco Gimenez, Carlos Eduardo Franco, Eferino Riz, Claudio Marcelo Padilla, Ernesto Fabian Ferrero, Jorge Raul Alderete, Carlos Alcaraz, Marcelo Daniel Macalusi, Claudio Marcel Rodriguez Villar, Hugo Roman, Bernardo Oscar Villavicencio, Carlos Omar Marino, Hipolito Arregin, Nestor Ramon Barili, Alberto Roque Kiswczun, Juan Ramon Gimenez, Jose Luis Fernandez, Daniel Oscar Huerta, Juan Ramon Aguilera, Alfredo Antonio Luques, Nestor Omar Carbonell, Raul Armando Maldonado, Hugo Nicolas Riquel, Luis Alberto Maza, Victor Ayala, Claudio Vicente Amarilla, and Walter Caro.

Former River Police NCO's Raul Horacio de Sagastizabal, Luis Orlando Chao, Faban Galeano, and Domingo Dose are also under arrest, as is Fabian Enrique Caminos, a former member of the Albatros Group. As for civilian Armando Rojas, he has been released because of a lack of evidence.

Further on Alleged Rico-Vazquez Conversation

PY1212024490 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2357 GMT 11 Dec 90

[Text] Buenos Aires, 11 Dec (NA)—Former Lieutenant Colonel Aldo Rico appeared in court this afternoon. Testifying before Judge Miguel Pons, he denied having held a telephone conversation with a civilian about Colonel Mohamed Ali Seineldin, about whom he reportedly said: "If they do not execute him, I will kill him." He also said that the recording "had been obtained through the government spy system."

Rico, who said [words indistinct], asserted to journalists after testifying that in his meeting with Judge Pons he denied the rumor that he had held a telephone conversation with lawyer Alejandro Vazquez last week.

The former military officer who led the Holy Week and Monte Caseros rebellions said: "This recording has no legal merit because it was obtained through the spy system used by the government."

The recording of the alleged conversation between Rico and Vazquez was given to Judge Pons by lawyer Pablo Argibay Molina, who represents journalist Bernardo Neustadt. Neustadt made the conversation public by broadcasting it on his program on Radio America.

Lawyer Alejandro Vazquez has flatly denied having talked with Rico on the phone and said that he will sue "Rico, Neustadt, and Neustadt's lawyer, who submitted the anonymous recording to the courts."

"I flatly deny being the person who talked to Rico," Vazquez said. He added that the recording "could be a technical tape composition; there are extremely advanced techniques for doing that, and a talk could be formulated by technically joining parts of other recordings."

In response to a question, Rico said: "I did not say that I was going to kill Seineldin." He explained that he did not admit to the judge that he had held the telephone conversation—in which he admitted knowing that the Painted Faces were going to rebel—that was widely publicized last week.

Justicialist Deputies Jose Luis Manzano and Miguel Toma today requested that the executive branch order the Attorney General's Office to process Rico for being an accessory to a crime after its commission.

Manzano, who met with Presidential Secretary General Eduardo Bauza today, said that the former military man "is involved as an accessory to the crime after the fact

and should therefore be tried immediately. This trial will not hinder the investigation into his participation in other events."

Manzano said Rico should be tried "in accordance with Article 277, Item 1, of the Penal Code, which sentences those who hide a criminal or help him to escape after the commission of the crime to up to two years imprisonment."

Painted Faces Leader Aldo Rico Interviewed

PY1112180790 Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 6 Dec 90 p A-20

["Excerpts" of "exclusive" interview with former Lieutenant Colonel Aldo Rico, leader of the Painted Faces, by Folha de Sao Paulo journalist Roberto Lopez at the headquarters of his party, the Movement for Dignity and Independence, in Buenos Aires on 5 December]

[Text] [FOLHA] What is the strongest evidence you have that the rebels fell in a government trap?

[Rico] With Villa Martelli (where the "Painted Faces" staged an uprising in December 1988) the government troops reacted at 1800, but this time, at the Patricios Regiment, they reacted at 0600. This was just two or three hours after the rebels invaded and all the generals were already at the Military School, the operations' headquarters. How was this possible? Simple: the Army was waiting for the rebels. The rebels had also sent a letter to the president in which they informed him of such a possibility, just as we did before the 1987 Holy Week rebellion. Why did the Army not do anything to prevent this rebellion? Why did it not react before the rebellion?

[FOLHA] Did the "Painted Faces" not have to face the reaction of the loyal troops sooner than expected because of a mistake during the planning stages of their operation?

[Rico] I want to make one thing perfectly clear: What happened on 3 December has nothing to do with the previous actions of the "Painted Faces." This time around there were "Painted Faces" on both sides; both among the loyal troops and among the rebels. This was a confrontation between two factions of the same group.

[FOLHA] This leads us to another aspect of the issue. When he assumed power one and one-half years ago, President Carlos Menem seemed to enjoy the support of the "Painted Faces," an ultra-nationalist segment within the Argentine Army. What happened? Were they betrayed?

[Rico] Yes, of course. He does not hide this fact. At the time, the president embraced Colonel Mohamed Ali Seineldin (believed to be the mentor of the 3 December rebellion and currently under arrest in the interior of the country) and called him the "colonel of the people." Now Menem does this to him. During the Villa Martelli rebellion I realized that the government wanted deaths and so I stopped fighting. No replacement in the Army staff is worth the death of an Argentine colonel or lieutenant.

[FOLHA] Does this mean that you believe that up to the 3 December rebellion, Menem and Seineldin were allies?

[Rico] Everyone knows that they are allies. What they are experiencing is a confrontation among Muslims because, as you know, they are allies even regarding religious beliefs.

[Folha] What is the result of this "confrontation?"

[Rico] The result is that the Army is divided as never before. Let me tell you that the troops of the 1st Armored Cavalry Division, which were mobilized against those who rebelled in the 2nd Armored Cavalry Brigade, simply did not move. Their tanks were sabotaged. That is why the Air Force had to attack the columns of the 2nd Brigade—the attacks were devastating. This was not a "Painted Faces" rebellion against the government; it was a rebellion of noncommissioned officers against officers, which is much more serious. We will only learn the true dimension of this rebellion when those who escape turn up. Many people are in hiding, scared of the punishment they will have to face.

[FOLHA] What did the 3 December rebels want?

[Rico] I think they wanted to take power.

[FOLHA] You are the candidate for Buenos Aires governor for the Movement for Dignity and Independence and you intend to be candidate to president of the Republic. What would you have done if you had been in President Menem's place last Monday? Would you have repressed the rebels or would you have tried to negotiate with them?

[Rico] I would have repressed them.

[FOLHA] How long has it been since you spoke with Colonel Seineldin?

[Rico] Eight months.

[FOLHA] Why did you become estranged from him?

[Rico] Because I preferred the political scene.

[FOLHA] Do you think Seineldin seeks to reach power through the military scene?

[Rico] I have already told you, I have not spoken with Seineldin in eight months.

[FOLHA] Do you really think he asked for a gun to shoot himself, as the defense minister said?

[Rico] I do not know. He is very religious..., I do not know.

[FOLHA] Is the lack of money for the Army what leads you to believe that the government wants to curtail the Army as a factor of power in the country?

[Rico] It is not only a problem of money. It is a matter of defining what is wanted for the Army. Within my field of vision, which is as a nationalist, I think that the Army should not be engaged in any administrative program. I think that the Army problem is just one among many. This government is giving away the Argentine people's income to the foreign creditor banks, and it started out by giving away the income obtained from oil exploitation. To control the Army is simply one of the current goals of the government.

[FOLHA] Rumors have circulated saying that nationalist Army sectors did not like the signing of the recent Argentine-Brazilian nuclear agreement which includes the control of nuclear experiments in the two countries by the International Atomic Energy Agency. What do you think of this?

[Rico] I think Argentina gave up nuclear tests a long time ago.

[FOLHA] You mentioned the possibility that the government and the Army command prepared an armed trap against a faction of the Army, but it is said in the Buenos Aires military circles that Army Chief of Staff General Martin Bonnet is not capable of preparing such a sophisticated plan.

[Rico] He is not, but Balza (General Martin Balza, current Argentine Army deputy chief of staff) is. Balza is much more intelligent.

Report Issued on Uruguayan Round of GATT Talks

PY1112231190 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2133 GMT 10 Dec 90

[Text] Buenos Aires, 10 Dec (NA)—The U.S. Government and the countries that do not subsidize their agricultural production, including Argentina, have agreed to increase the pressure on the EEC Governments to oblige them to change their agricultural policies following the postponement of the negotiations of the Uruguayan Round of the GATT talks.

Felipe Sola, under secretary for agriculture, went on to explain that the objective is to try and get the agriculture issue discussed at the level of chief of state during a summit that could take place in March 1991.

Sola stressed that postponement of the Uruguay Round was preferred "because it is better to return without an agreement than with a bad one."

The under secretary said: "Argentine did not want to progress in the negotiations of other issues until the topics of subsidies and access to agricultural markets is resolved," and he stated that the postponement was a result of "the intransigent position of the EEC."

Sola and Jorge Pereyra de Olazabal, industry and commerce under secretary, were part of the Economy Ministry's official delegation that took part in the Uruguayan Round that was held last week in Brussels, Belgium, and they gave a detailed report on the course of the negotiations during a news conference in the company of Foreign Ministry officials Leonida Gasoni, (Coninagro) [Agricultural-Livestock Intercooperative Confederation], and Eduardo de Zavalia, (Argentine Rural Association).

The officials indicated that Argentina's decision to withdraw from the negotiations on services and intellectual rights if there were no advances in the negotiations on agriculture was supported by the United States and "unanimously supported by the other members of the Cairns Group."

The highlighted the fact that the "monolithic" position of the countries that do not apply agricultural subsidies was maintained "despite the fact that the EEC tried to break it by making unofficial proposals for bilateral deals with Colombia, Thailand, and Argentina."

Ambassador William Otrera, who represented the Foreign Ministry, indicated that if the overall agricultural proposal of the EEC had been accepted, "it could have caused serious harm to Argentine producers."

Sola explained: "Contrary to what happened during the Tokyo Round of the GATT (1973-1979), this time the agricultural topic, which is the main topic for Argentina, could not be postponed while other topics were discussed."

He added: "In a chat with Clayton Yeutter, U.S. under secretary for agriculture [title as received], it was agreed that pressure will be increased as of January 1991, seeking to elevate the issue to the level of chief of state."

Sola believes that the United States will not be able to maintain its current level of subsidies and that instead it will opt for the implementation of "retaliations [preceding word in English] to limit the import of EEC products, which would be a harsh crackdown."

Government To Discuss Patents With U.S.

PY1112225390 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2152 GMT 10 Dec 90

[Text] Buenos Aires, 10 Dec (NA)—Jorge Pereyra de Olazabal, under secretary of industry and commerce, today stressed that the government is willing to engage in bilateral negotiations over medicine patents with the United States. He added that the government will try to enforce regulations that will not affect local laboratories.

The official said that this government stand "could have led" the United States to strongly support the Argentine demand before the EEC to reduce agricultural subsidies and open its market to the countries that do not make use of subsidies (the Cairns Group).

During a press conference at the Finance Ministry building, Pereyra de Olazabal said that "we are willing to engage in bilateral negotiations over patents," but he explained that "we do not want any agreement that would affect capital investment in Argentine laboratories."

The U.S. delegation supported the Argentine position to suspend the GATT talks on the other issues if no agreement was reached in the field of agriculture, despite the fact that Argentina and the U.S. Government have thus far held totally opposite views concerning copyrights (including medicine patents).

Correction to Menem Issues Disclaimer

PY1112174590

The following correction pertains to the item headlined "Menem Issues Disclaimer" published in the 11 December Latin America DAILY REPORT, page 18: Column two, third full paragraph, sentence one make read: He said: We estimate that.... (deleting extraneous quotation mark)

Correction to Civilians To Be Tried With Rebels

PY1012191890

The following correction pertains to the item headlined "Civilians To Be Tried With Military Rebels" published in the 10 December Latin America DAILY REPORT, page 47:

Column two, paragraph seven, sentence one make read: ...Colonel Aldo Rico twice rebelled against the government of Alfonsin, saying both times that Seineldin was his leader. (rewording for clarity)

Bolivia

CNPZ Communique Launches Armed Struggle

PY1112134090 La Paz Radio Fides in Spanish
1113 GMT 11 Dec 90

[Text] The armed struggle began in Bolivia at 0200 [0600 GMT] on 8 December. This is stated in a Nestor Paz Zamora Commission [CNPZ] communique received by Radio Fides yesterday before dawn. The communique also states that the interior minister, the Interior Ministry under secretary, and Tommy Lonsdale are responsible for the deaths of four CNPZ members and of Jorge Lonsdale [chairman of Coca-Cola in Bolivia].

Father Eduardo Perez Iribarne [Radio Fides director] read the CNPZ communique yesterday during this program [as heard].

[Begin Iribarne recording] I will now read a communique we received before dawn today under strange circumstances and which we are now studying. Here is the text of the communique:

A crucial period to consolidate the armed struggle in Bolivia began at 0200 on 8 December. As [Interior Minister] Capobianco has stated: God is our witness.

Four CNPZ members have been killed in defense of Bolivian sovereignty in view of imminent U.S. intervention. They were brutally tortured and later killed by the Interior Ministry.

The CNPZ has not been exterminated as alleged by Capobianco. This is not a small group, and it is completely submerged in the armed struggle. This will be a war to the bitter end.

Who killed Jorge Lonsdale? His relatives disobeyed our conditions for paying the ransom. We need money to defend our ideals of achieving national liberation and justice. These are the people responsible for the deaths of Lonsdale and our comrades in arms.

There are three photos clipped from one or several newspapers attached to the communique. The photos are of Interior Minister Guillermo Capobianco, Interior Minister Under Secretary Raul Loayza, and Tommy Lonsdale.

Neither the interior minister, his European mercenaries, nor the imperialist lackeys will be able to stop the armed struggle or silence our voices.

Long live the 5 December martyrs.
[Signed] The living CNPZ members.

This is what we wish to inform our listeners with complete objectivity and responsibility. [end recording]

Dismantling of Group Denied

PY1112135690 La Paz Radio Fides in Spanish
1117 GMT 11 Dec 90

[Text] General Felipe Carvajal Badani, the Bolivian police commander, has denied the interior minister's report that the Nestor Paz Zamora Commission [CNPZ] subversive group has been dismantled.

[Begin Carvajal recording] Based on our findings, which we reported at the proper time, we have always held that this group has not been completely dismantled. We are aware of the presence of other armed branches. We are also aware that we are very well-prepared regarding preventive and repressive operations because we want to bring long-lasting peace to all Bolivians. I believe we are well-prepared for this. This is why we will continue with the investigations. [end recording]

Gen. Felipe Carvajal Badani said Bolivian security organizations will continue their repressive operations and investigations to find the CNPZ members. He added that society is still in danger.

[Begin Carvajal recording] I believe so in view of the threats that are being made. I believe we cannot ignore the facts. No threat can be left to chance. We believe we have the duty of continuing with the investigations, as we have been doing all along. [end recording]

Station Justifies Broadcast

PY1112202190 La Paz Radio Fides in Spanish 1128 GMT 11 Dec 90

[Unattributed station commentary]

[Text] I would like to reassert something I said yesterday to our dear listene s, and particularly to our dear colleagues from the La Paz media.

Regarding the Nestor Paz Zamora Commission [CNPZ] document that we received yesterday, I would like to say that, as it is befitting, we have supplied a recording of this document to all those members of the media who requested it. They were all treated with the same love and respect that all our dear colleagues deserve.

The text of the document is still in our possession because we believe that in so doing we are respecting the will of those who provided us with this document, although we were not given any precise instructions. The press must handle these delicate issues with great care.

The bomb explosion at Abaroa Plaza last night confirms that the spiral of violence has not ceased in Bolivia. We have strived to act responsibly and loyally with those persons who gave us this document because they believed in our professionalism. This is why we did not grant it more importance than was requested.

It is not a question of a Radio Fides scoop. "La Hora del Pais" [Radio Fides news program] would prefer that this kind of communique be given to other members of media. We are quite sincere about this. Our professional work is focused in another direction. If, however, they are handed to us, we will read them in an objective and honest manner, strictly in keeping with the instructions given by those who issued these documents.

We are not looking for publicity. We do not want to go beyond that which was asked of us. We did exactly what was asked. In view of this, and with great respect and admiration, we ask for the understanding of our colleagues.

Moreover, if they are listening to us, we request CNPZ members to please choose other more important members of the media than "La Hora del Pais," either in La Paz or in the interior of the country, in the future. We would rather not receive these communiques. If they continue to come, however, we will continue to broadcast them.

Ministry Orders Investigation Into Torture

PY1112151690 La Paz Radio Fides in Spanish 2300 GMT 10 Dec 90

[Communique issued by the Ministry of Interior, Migration, and Justice National Press and Public Relations Directorate on 10 December]

[Text] 1. The Ministry of Interior, Migration, and Justice hereby informs the people that in light of press reports of an unidentified dead body with signs of torture left at the morgue, a comprehensive and immediate investigation has been ordered to identify the dead body and those responsible for this action.

2. The investigation has thus far concluded that the dead body is that of Alejandro Escobar Gutierrez, who was arrested by police and provided information that was decisive in clarification of the CNPZ [Nestor Paz Zamora Commission] case.

3. It has been learned that the victim died under circumstances that have not yet been established while he was a prisoner under the control of police personnel.

Consequently, the Ministry of Interior has ordered the National Police general command to begin an immediate internal investigation through the appropriate organs and through the Criminalistics Unit, in keeping with police regulations. The objective of the investigation is to establish the exact circumstances under which the event happened and the persons responsible for it.

At the same time, the ministry has ordered an investigation by the judicial branch police.

4. Considering the seriousness of the event, and based on the results of an investigation, the ministry hereby clearly states that no official of the Ministry of Interior, Migration, and Justice was consulted on the subject. Even more so, no action of this type would ever be authorized.

5. The Ministry of Interior authorities once again note that the national government's policy is to fight, within the law, all violent terrorist actions that seek to jeopardize the people's security, public order, and social peace.

In addition to repudiating this event, we have ordered appropriate legal action to punish those who are responsible, in keeping with our duties as citizens and public servants.

6. We add that any abuses by the state security organs will be checked with the same strictness used in this investigation and in antiterrorist actions.

7. In conclusion, while we are responsible for the exercise of power, we will under no circumstance permit illegal—much less, violent—actions because we believe respect for human and constitutional rights, which is essential for the people's security, is the best guarantee for democracy and its exercise by all Bolivians.

Commentary Criticizes Police Actions

PY1112171490 La Paz Radio Fides in Spanish 1109 GMT 11 Dec 90

[Unattributed station commentary]

[Text] Dear listeners: A free press is your only guarantee. Whether a businessman, rich, unemployed, or resettled, all of you can rely on the work of journalists from "La Hora del Pais" [Radio Fides news program] or the media

in general. Be it radio, television, or press, honest and responsible journalists and a free press are your only guarantee. A free press guarantees freedom and security.

Had we not investigated and insisted on this case, the killing [of Alejandro Escobar Guitierrez] would have been completely ignored. The police command is certainly not impressed with what has been disclosed by the Interior Ministry.

We must, however, also be fair. We must praise the courage shown by the Interior Ministry in issuing this communique, which we are certain was not well-received by the police.

Gentlemen of the police, you are men in uniform. You safeguard the laws. You cannot (?kill detainees). The assassins of this Peruvian citizen must be placed at the disposal of civilian courts because a uniform does not authorize anyone to kill anybody—even less, detainees.

The Constitution and the international human rights treaty, which has been sponsored by the Presidency-....[commentator changes thought] Imagine what would happen if the Bolivian police are involved in problems of this nature. This is a very serious case.

We are aware that the Bolivian police high command disagrees with the Interior Ministry communique, but truth must prevail. The police must be more aware of their responsibilities. The Bolivian police, therefore, are involved in a very negative issue.

Brazil

Country To Insist on Reduction of Subsidies

PY0812201490 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2100 GMT 7 Dec 90

[Text] Brazil will insist on a reduction of EEC agricultural subsidies. The Uruguayan Round of GATT will resume in January.

Agriculture Minister Antonio Cabrera feels an agreement can still be reached at the GATT meeting in Brussels. He said all nations are devoted to achieving a free market. He added that the EEC's proposal for a rebalancing of tariffs, which establishes a surtax of six percent on soybean sales, is unacceptable to Brazil.

[Begin Cabrera recording] The EEC is trying to present a proposal called a rebalancing plan that will greatly affect Brazil's agricultural products, especially soybeans. Brazil is opposed to this proposal, and I would say it is absolutely unacceptable for Brazil. [end recording]

The minister added that Brazil is heading a movement against that proposal. He said countries such as Argentina, Australia, New Zealand, and Uruguay, together with Brazil, repudiate the surtax proposed by the EEC.

Defense To Accuse CIA of Chico Mendes Murder

PY1012154690 Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 6 Dec 90 p A-13

[Text] Rio Branco—Lawyer Rubens Lopes Torres yesterday said that he will charge $50,000 (approximately 8.45 million cruzeiros) for any interview to the press granted by his clients Darli Alves da Silva and Darci Alves da Silva. Lopes Torres is defending these two men and Joao Leal Lucena, all of whom are being tried for the murder of [environmentalist] Chico Mendes.

"Anyone who wants to film Darli and Darci Alves at the trial or who wants to interview them will have to pay $50,000," he said. "Those people are not going to profit from the trial," he said, referring to national and international environmental organizations. Lopes Torres said that the money will serve to "cover expenses."

Lawyer Joao Lucena Leal, 51, yesterday said in Porto Velho, (Roraima), that he has prepared the defense for his clients: to present Chico Mendes as "figurehead" of the U.S. trust companies that are interested in the mineral wealth of the northern region, and that the crime was prepared and carried out by the CIA (Central Intelligence Agency, the U.S. secret service), as part of a plan to dominate the Amazon. Lucena Leal said that Chico Mendes was reportedly murdered by R. Freitas, a former Acre state military police sergeant. Freitas was subsequently killed in an ambush in Rio Branco during 1989.

Lucena Leal is coordinating the defense of the accused. He will be assisted by criminal lawyer Armando Reigota, who is responsible for the technical part, while Lopes Torres will be the speaker. Lopes Torres wants to challenge seven of the 21 names chosen for the jury, arguing that they are members of the PT [Workers Party] of Xapuri and that as such they could influence the decision. He said he will provide "many surprises" in favor of his clients. Lopes Torres said the trial will last more than 48 hours and that he will use all legal arguments to make it as long as possible. He added that all accusing witnesses will be confronted: "No one is going to accuse without being thoroughly questioned."

Decree Names Environmental Council Members

PY0912221490 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2100 GMT 6 Dec 90

[Text] (Ayrton Crenachi), national coordinator for the Indian Tribes Union, is the newest member of the National Environment Council [Conama]. Osmarino Amancio Rodrigues, chairman of the Xapuri Rural Workers Union, will be the alternate member. (Crenachi's) name appeared in a decree signed by President Fernando Collor that was published in the official gazette. The decree says (Crenachi) and Amancio Rodrigues will be full members of Conama as representatives of the Forum for the Alliance of the Peoples of the Forests.

According to (Crenachi), his designation as a Conama member represents progress in the sense of guaranteeing the participation of the peoples of the forests in planning the country's environmental policy. Brazil will have a national program for the protection of the peoples of the forests, which embraces rubber gatherers [seringueiros], Indians, social workers [estrativistas], and rural producers who do not plunder the environment.

The first step in establishment of the program will be the creation of a technical department within Conama, with representatives from the Forum for the Alliance of the Peoples of the Forests, the Potiguara Association of Friends of Nature, the Environment Secretariat, IBAMA [Brazilian Institute for Environmental Affairs and Renewable Natural Resources], the Justice Ministry, and the governments of Acre and Goias States.

The idea of creating a program for the protection of the peoples of the forests was adopted today in Brasilia at this year's last meeting of the National Environment Council.

At that meeting a resolution was also approved to allow the participation of states and nongovernment environmental organizations in the commission in charge of reviewing the decree that bans economic exploitation of the Atlantic Forest. The proposal was submitted by the Brazilian Association of Environmental Entities, which comprises the state environment secretaries. This association believes the decree does not specify the type of vegetation that can be exploited.

Conama also approved a resolution that establishes maximum limits for the emission of pollutants into the air. These limits will be valid for new industries controlled by the state environment secretariats, which will be able to restrict the emission of different types of pollution agents even more.

Health Minister Criticizes Cuba Over Vaccines

PY1112113390 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2036 GMT 11 Dec 90

[Text] Belo Horizonte, 11 Dec (EFE)—Brazilian Health Minister Alceni Guerra today charged that "through the sale of its meningitis type B vaccines, Cuba has exploited Brazil." He also criticized Cuba for refusing to share its technology.

Guerra said: "This vaccine is extremely expensive. Even though it costs a fortune, it is not very effective." He spoke at a meeting of experts of the Belo Horizonte Health Secretariat who are involved in a vaccination campaign that is scheduled to start here and in 27 other municipal districts on 15 December.

Each dose of the Cuban vaccine costs seven dollars. Guerra said that the Brazilian Government spent $130 million last year to import these vaccines.

Guerra added: "With this kind of money we could have improved emergency health services in all the Brazilian capitals."

Guerra charged that "the Cubans, in an unprecedented decision in the area of health, have refused to transfer their technology to produce these medicines. This position is not commensurate with the idea we had of the Cuban leaders."

Guerra added: "This is an imperialist position that exploits a Third-World country like Brazil." He said that not even his personal appeal to Cuban President Fidel Castro persuaded the Cubans to sell Brazil the technology to produce the vaccines.

The Brazilian Government has thus far imported 18 million doses of the meningitis type B vaccine and plans to purchase 15 million more doses next year at a total cost of $100 million.

Collor Appoints New Economy Under Secretary

PY0812194690 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 1 Dec 90 p 27

[Text] President Fernando Collor has appointed Antonio Maciel Neto, deputy director of the Department of Industries and Trade, as the new under secretary of economy. He will replace Joao Cunha, who has been appointed special adviser to Economy Minister Zelia Cardoso de Mello's staff chief.

Sao Paulo Industries Dismiss 24,266 Workers

PY1212023290 Brasilia Radio Nacional da Amazonia Network in Portuguese 0930 GMT 11 Dec 90

[Summary] According to the Sao Paulo State Industrial Confederation, Sao Paulo's industrial sector dismissed a total of 24,266 workers in the month of November.

* Growing Influence of Collor Clan Members Seen

91SM0085A Brasilia CORREIO BRAZILIENSE in Portuguese 21 Oct 90 p 3

[Text] Deputy Bernardo Cabral has blamed the "doorknob crowd"—that is, those advisors who are free to open the door to the presidential office whenever they so desire—for the scheming that has been reported in connection with him. But according to politicians who know Collor intimately, only two people can open the door to his office and address him in familiar terms: his brother-in-law Ambassador Marcos Coimbra and sugarmill owner Joao Lyra, the father-in-law of his brother Pedro.

The "doorknob crowd" referred to by the former minister consists of the president's private secretary, Claudio Vieira, who oversees distribution of the publicity budget, and press secretary Claudio Humberto. Those two constitute Collor's Alagoas group. But there is another figure

who is becoming increasingly important in Planalto Palace, and that is the chief of the Military Household, General Agenor Homem de Carvalho, who was responsible for bringing Collor and the new minister of justice, Jarbas Passarinho, together.

But the real gray eminence in the government is Paulo Cesar Farias, the Alagoas businessman who was in charge of Collor's presidential campaign fund. "P.C.," as he is known in the inner circles of government, is used by the president of the republic for very special missions. Paulo Cesar was "discovered" by Joao Lyra, the businessman and senator whom he calls "godfather."

To get an idea of how important "P.C." is in Alagoas, one need only remember that Deputy Geraldo Bulhoes, who ran for governor of Alagoas against Renan Calheiros, was elected federal deputy four times with financing provided by Paulo Cesar, according to Alagoas politicians.

In Fernando Collor's gubernatorial campaign, Paulo Cesar was the candidate's permanent contact with the Alagoas Sugarmill Owners Cooperative and with businessmen in other states. When Collor announced his candidacy for president of the republic, he invited Paulo Cesar to manage his campaign fund, thus making the latter his link with businessmen throughout the country.

But Paulo Cesar Farias travels in an orbit not frequented by the "doorknob crowd" referred to by former Minister Bernardo Cabral. Those who are always with Collor are Ambassador Marcos Coimbra, who is the secretary general of the Office of the Presidency (more or less the equivalent of the head of the now extinct Civilian Household), press secretary Claudio Humberto Rosa e Silva, and the president's private secretary, Claudio Vieira.

The press secretary was an opponent of Collor in Alagoas politics and attacked the former mayor of Maceio in the columns of the newspaper for which he wrote. He was a member of the PCB (Brazilian Communist Party). Won over by Collor, he accompanied the latter in his campaigns to become governor of Alagoas and president—campaigns in which few people put much faith, at least in the beginning.

During the most recent campaign, he became so important on the committee that he annoyed several other important people, among them the president of the republic's brother, businessman Leopoldo Collor of Sao Paulo. Leopoldo even threatened him with physical violence during the victory party at the Dinda House. Unable to prevent the president from appointing Claudio Humberto press secretary, Leopoldo managed to keep Humberto from gaining control of the publicity budget, which Collor placed under the supervision of his private secretary, Claudio Vieira.

Handing the political control of so much power over to a trusted advisor who has been with him since he was mayor of Maceio means leaving all the important decisions to the president himself. After all, the administration's publicity budget is estimated at about $1 billion per year—not a paltry sum at all in the hands of someone who, like the current president, knows the ropes.

Another important associate among the president's close advisors is Lieutenant Dario Cavalcante of the Alagoas Military Police, whom Collor has put in charge of his personal security. Discreet and efficient, Dario accompanies the president wherever he goes both here and abroad. Close associates call him "the president's shadow."

Those are the trusted associates whom the president of the republic could not do without, in the words of one congressman familiar with the idiosyncracies of power. The two men closest to the president—in addition to Paulo Cesar Farias ("P.C.")—are senator and businessman Joao Lyra and Marcos Coimbra, the president's brother-in-law.

Lyra is the richest man in Alagoas. It is said that he spent $16 million of his own money on Collor's presidential campaign. Those who know him recall that Joao Lyra is a native of Pernambuco who got rich in Alagoas through his own labor and the help he received from the Dedini Group and the former chairman of the Sugar and Alcohol Institute, Sergipe landowner Leandro Maciel, who is now dead. He is one of the few people allowed to call President Collor by his first name, Fernando.

A brother of the president, Pedro Collor de Mello, who runs the family's businesses, is married to Senator Joao Lyra's daughter. Lyra's defeat in the race for senator in the new state of Roraima was the fuze that set off the political crisis resulting in Deputy Bernardo Cabral's departure from the Ministry of Justice. And there are those who claim that Lyra's defeat may have other consequences such as the removal of Rubens Villar as governor of Roraima.

According to Joao Lyra's friends, Lyra accused Cabral of allying himself with gubernatorial candidate Ottomar Pinto in Roraima and with the latter's wife, Marluce Pinto, who was elected senator (thus defeating the Alagoas sugarmill owner), as a means of ensuring that his own son, Julio Cabral, would be elected federal deputy.

The slate included businessman Wagner Canhedo as Marluce Pinto's alternate. Since Ottomar's wife intends to remain in Roraima with her husband—assuming that Ottomar is elected governor—Wagner Canhedo will become senator. Lyra has come to Brasilia to give the president a personal report on what happened in Roraima.

Another figure who has become more important since Collor's election as president of the republic is Deputy Renan Calheiros, who belongs to one of the state's extremely ferocious clans—the Calheiros clan. Renan was formerly a member of the PCdoB [Communist Party of Brazil]. He was the president's opponent before

becoming his ally. Today he has bitter complaints about the president's clan, which he accuses of helping his opponent in the Alagoas gubernatorial race, Deputy Geraldo Bulhoes, who is known as "G.B."

Not included in the Alagoas group or among those Cabral calls the "doorknob crowd" is the head of the Military Household, Gen. Agenor Homem de Carvalho, whose efficiency and skill have placed him high in the president of the republic's estimation and made him an important member of the group of advisers surrounding Collor.

It was he who was chosen by the president to launch the operation to make Senator Jarbas Passarinho a minister. His first personal contact with the senator had occurred when Collor was thinking of making Passarinho government leader in the Senate.

Some members of the president's staff say that it was Gen. Homem de Carvalho who personally advised Cabral to resign ("your resignation would get a favorable reception from the president"), but the former minister has denied that story. The skillful general was the only one of President Collor's associates to address a friendly note to Cabral praising his work in the administration.

Cabral's close friends do not conceal his rage at two of the secondary characters in this "fable" of Brazilian politics: the president's brother Leopoldo Collor and his advisor Claudio Humberto.

* Decline in Collor's Popularity Assessed

91SM0103A Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 13 Nov 90 p 3

[Editorial: "Prestige Declining"]

[Text] A democracy in which the legitimately-elected officials allow themselves to be guided by opinion polls is headed for a very bitter end. We should realize, however that the polls do serve—and this is enough—to indicate levels of popularity as well as some of the simple causes that determine them.

The latest poll taken by InformEstado leaves no doubt about one thing: during these past seven months, the prestige which the president of Brazil enjoyed with the public has experienced a pronounced decline, primarily because of inflation.

Inflation is not the only cause of this drop in popularity. Proof that the decline in the prestige ratings of the head of government is not associated solely with the rise in prices is that the majority of respondents *first*mentioned businessmen as being responsible for it. The administration ranked second, 14 percentage points lower. Now if the public believes that businessmen are responsible for the crisis, there is no logical reason why this should be so damaging to the president, a man who in seven months has seen his popularity ratings fall from 93 percent to 59 percent. Such a large—and continued—drop can only be attributed to inflation *plus* other factors.

Those who are in power and who get there as a result of substantial margins of votes tend to believe that their critics must be heeding the voices of petty interests, or are motivated by wounded pride. Starting from that premise, they imagine that voters react in the same way, i.e., do not allow themselves to be swayed by the criticism leveled against the government. Proof that such officials are mistaken is found in the figures—which also indicate that voters assimilate unhesitatingly the first meaning of the messages they receive. That is why they can blame businessmen for inflation and give the president poor marks.

During the campaign, the voters realized that the choice was between a proposal for renewal and a proposal for underdevelopment. Renewal involved administrative morality, plain and simple. That was why the voters applauded the measures taken to combat special privilege, while at the same time beginning to wonder why the battle against the bureaucracy was turning out to be less strident than had been promised. Furthermore, those voters were unable to understand, because it had not been explained to them ahead of time, why the privatization progress takes so long. When to all those mishaps suffered by the renewalist image one adds the minor incidents that began to undermine the process of building the edifice of administrative morality, a situation was precipitated to which very few were accustomed: an administration running out of gas after only seven months.

What were those incidents? A misunderstood love affair and a poorly- explained dismissal as a consequence of it. Second-echelon officials being fired without compelling reasons. Suddenly, the big crisis in Petrobras, when for the first time it became known that it is not only the president's political enemies who work against him, but his close friends—the ones who share the intimacy of a breakfast meeting and are privy to the codes for the direct, and secure, phone lines, as well as those within Planalto palace who ought to be more diligent in protecting the administration's good name. The actions and investigations ordered by the government have made people laugh. So far.

The president is mistaken if he believes his cronies when they tell him that everything is going well. The absence of an opposition worthy of the name—as there was in the Vargas era and later under Cafe Filho, UDN or PSD [National Democratic Union or Democratic Social Party]—takes the suspense out of sessions of the Chamber of Deputies and the Senate. This does not keep people from whispering in the corridors—and in Brasilia, whispering is as damaging to reputations as are all those parties whose costs and means of financing are poorly explained. Some say that Brasilia is Fantasy Island. But it is not permanently isolated from the rest of Brazil. What is done, said, and seen in the Plano Piloto becomes known all over the country—and, since the tale grows in the retelling, what begins in Brasilia as hearsay, or even intrigue, becomes fact by the time it reaches the centers where the wealth is produced.

It will do little good for the presidential spokesman to resort to verbal outbursts against this or that. The public, unfortunately for the dream of those who would like to live under a stable democratic regime, already senses which way the wind is blowing and is beginning to ask itself why the president of Brazil makes so many foreign trips, exposing himself unnecessarily to the fatigue that cannot help but add to the stress that comes with a job that must be performed in a climate (meteorologically speaking, in this case) as inhospitable as that of Brasilia. On the weekend it was announced that in January, His Excellency will be in India, and Itamaraty is already preparing the travel schedule for 1991. What about the administrative work?

All these factors wound the government's prestige and undermine its authority in the eyes of the common people, especially when there exist those who take special pains to recall the charges made by the leader of the government against the president's friend, with regard to the behavior of the mysterious "PC" in the disastrous campaign in Alagoas State.

Either the president sits up and takes notice of what is happening in Brasilia and in Brazil, or his prestige will continue to fall.

* Losses From Iranian Oil Contracts Confirmed

91SM0103C Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 21 Nov 90 p 8

[Article by Rosane de Souza]

[Text] Rio de Janeiro—Petrobras is suffering unnecessary losses on imports of at least 100,000 barrels of petroleum a day from Iran, company president Eduardo Teixeira disclosed yesterday. According to Teixeira, the former board of directors of the company, chaired by attorney Luiz Octavio da Motta Veiga, signed a contract in August to buy petroleum at prices above world market levels.

Teixeira did not mention the size of the losses accumulated so far (which, according to some sources, would be $180 million a year), and appeared cautious about accusing the former directors of the state corporation of incompetence in concluding the unfavorable trade transaction. "I am not going to make a statement on that until I have all the data to support my conviction that the contract was negotiated at prices above market levels," he said. According to Teixeira, one of the clauses in the contract with Iran calls for the price to be fixed on the basis of North Sea Brent crude, which is more expensive than the Middle Eastern oils that usually serve as basis for Petrobras' negotiations with its suppliers.

In making these statements following a visit to Petrobras' Ilha Grande Maritime Terminal (Tebig) at Angra dos Reis on the southern coast of Rio de Janeiro State, the president of the state corporation confirmed the reports of those purchases of petroleum at above-market prices which O ESTADO had published on Sunday, and again in yesterday's issue. Teixeira also said that Minister of the Infrastructure Ozires Silva and Petrobras' marketing director Mauricio Alvarenga are now in Iran, where they went for the very purpose of trying to modify the commercial clauses in the petroleum purchase contract in order to stem the losses from the transaction. Furthermore, he discarded any possibility that the company might sign an agreement for more expensive petroleum imports just so that the Brazilian businessmen who joined the trade mission can export products and services to that Arab nation.

Unsuited

According to the Petrobras president, both the federal government and the current management of the company would consider such a contract to be, at the very least, "unsuited to the interests of Brazil." Furthermore, he said, "it would conflict directly with the current objectives of the Brazilian economy." Petrobras has two contracts to import Iranian oil, totalling 200,000 barrels a day. The first, signed on the eve of the invasion of Kuwait by Iraq, expires in June 1991 while the second—the object of all the controversy—expires in December of this year.

Teixeira avoided, however, making any predictions as to the volume of the losses that Petrobras might accumulate between now and the end of the year on petroleum imported from Iran following the dramatic rise in prices provoked by the conflict between Iraq and Kuwait: "They will be whatever they turn out to be," he said, borrowing the lyrics of an old American ballad, whose well-known refrain was: "Que sera, sera...Whatever will be, will be..." He believes, however, that the outcome will not be all that bad. When all is said and done, he insists, "Petrobras will not have cash problems this year."

Teixeira has more optimistic plans. Next year, he said, Brazil will cut its petroleum imports by 10 percent. That means that Petrobras is going to invest more in domestic production, to boost it by 65,000 barrels a day. The country imports an average of 650,000 barrels a day. As Teixeira sees it, however, the success of Petrobras depends on the success of the Collor Plan which, according to him, will begin to yield positive results in the first half of next year.

* Iran Trip Centers on Trade, Oil Talks

* Businessmen Promote Exports

91SM0104A Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 18 Nov 90 p 12

[Article by Aluizio Maranhao]

[Text] Rio de Janeiro—The businessmen and government officials who are visiting Teheran, capital of Iran, as part of a mission headed by Minister of the Infrastructure Ozires Silva, is trying to reach an agreement with that country on exports that will end up being paid for by

the Brazilian user of fuels. All this came about because the contract now in force, under which Brazil imports 100,000 barrels a day of Iranian oil to be exchanged for goods and services, established a price per barrel that is about $5.00 above the reference point for the world market,i.e., Arabian Light, the highest quality oil in the world, produced by Saudi Arabia. This is said to cost the state enterprise a half million dollars a day, or $180 million a year.

This unnecessary expenditure of foreign exchange, the burden of which will be passed on to the consumer, will benefit the companies that will export to Iran under this contract; the more Brazil pays for that oil, the greater the opportunities for them to do business.

It was former Petrobras president Luiz Octavio da Motta Veiga who initiated the negotiations leading to this contract to purchase Iranian oil and who, when he left the company, was defending the validity and fairness of the transaction as it stood when he was in charge of it (see box). As the crisis in the Persian Gulf worsened, however, the Iranians—like all the rest of the world's oil producers—raised their prices. Now, Petrobras experts charge that pressures are being brought to bear within Brazil to have Petrobras continue paying more to Iran, even in the event of a political and military relaxation of tensions in the region, just to help make it possible for Brazilian companies, both private and state-owned, to export goods and services.

Given present circumstances, with Brazil descending into an internal recession at a dizzying rate, the possibility of closing deals abroad in dollars, protected by the Petrobras umbrella, made inclusion on Silva's mission a hotly-contested opportunity. Until the eve of departure Wednesday night, some businessmen were still trying to find space on the committee, even though it would cost them $6,000, the price of a round trip to Teheran.

The race to Iran caused some names to be left off the list distributed by the Ministry of the Infrastructure because they signed up too late. For example, neither Cecilio Almeida of C.R. Almeida, a contractor based in Parana State, nor Arthur Falk, owner of the trading company Interunion and other businesses, appeared on the list.

These two were accommodated on Mission Ozires, but the same was not true of Petrobras' own president, Eduardo Teixeira, who changed plans at the last minute. He gave his seat on the plane to one of his directors, Mauricio Alvarenga. This was enough to start a flurry of rumors—everything from President Fernando Collor de Mello having asked him to stay in Brazil as a "joker" to occupy the chair of Zelia Cardoso de Mello in the Ministry of the Economy (unlikely, given Teixeira's friendship with her), to a story that Teixeira, a cautious man, preferred not to have his name associated with the Iranian oil contract, much less with a delegation that included businessmen who are closely associated with Minister Silva's past, both politically explosive theories.

Not only businessmen with experience in selling to the Arabs through Petrobras accompanied the committee. There were also some old friends of Ozires Silva—besides Ozilio Silva, president of Embraer and the infrastructure minister's successor as the head of that government aircraft factory. One of Silva's former colleagues from private enterprise who is on the delegation is Wolfgang Sauer, former head of Volkswagen, the device by which thousands of Passat autos were sold to Iraq during the past decade. Like the minister, Sauer serves on the board of the Iochpe group, an investment company.

The committee also includes a representative of Minister Silva's former employer. He is Waldey Sanchez, of Maxion—formerly known as Massey-Ferguson—a tractor manufacturer that was also able to take advantage of the opening of Iraq to Brazilian firms during the 1980's because of the oil imports. Maxion is one of the firms controlled by the Iochpe holding company, and it is through Maxion that the investment firm of Debraco also came to be represented on the trade mission. Minister Silva was once a partner in Debraco, which has just bought a 19 percent interest in the tractor factory from the Iochpe group. Prominent among the members of this coterie of Minister Silva's former partners who are going on the trip is Arthur Falk, with whom Ozires worked on the attempt to link Rio and Sao Paulo by high-speed trains, shortly before being invited to join Collor's team.

There are interlocking business interests on Silva's mission. Iochpe is the firm that has bet the most heavily on this tour. Evidence of this is the fact that Wolfgang Sauer now has a trading company, Eximbras Exports and Imports of Brazil, in association with former Petrobras director Paulo Vieira Belloti and an Iochpe director, Telmo Raul Blauth. Another influential firm with a long history in the Middle East that is represented on this trip, is Mendes Jr., a construction contractor and Petrobras' former partner in Iraq.

The trip to Teheran, which includes a side trip to Romania to discuss the interests of Vale [Vale do Rio Doce Company], an exporter of iron ore to that country, is of special importance to Ozires Silva's political future, since it could serve as the framework for a restoration of his influence within the government, aided by the same people who once floated his name as a potential occupant of Planalto Palace—the business community.

As the head of a ministry whose budgetary caliber can make contractors and government suppliers in general very happy, Ozires Silva is now in a position to consolidate his longstanding alliance with businessmen through the contract to import petroleum from Iran and the other business deals that will grow out of it. Certainly this will be a concern for Minister of Economy Zelia Cardoso de Mello and her team, who are betting their future on the success of the current anti-inflationary therapy—which could be destabilized if, for example, government companies such as Petrobras resume pressures for price increases.

[Boxed material]

Iraq Initiated the Formula

This type of contract under which the state enterprise buys oil and, instead of paying its supplier in dollars, reduces its account by exporting goods or services, is nothing new at Petrobras. The biggest example of this type of deal is provided by Iraq, which throughout the 1980's supplied the Petrobras refineries and was, by far, Brazil's largest foreign supplier. Major business deals were closed on the basis of all that oil—exports of Volkswagen Passat cars, sugar, and Mendes Jr. construction projects rising on the sands of the Iraqi deserts. The later would later transform themselves into a loss of $280 million, to be borne by the Brazilian taxpayer. During the previous administration, the contractor succeeded in passing all its equipment on to Banco do Brasil, an arrangement that was insured by Sul America and the Brazilian Reinsurance Institute (IRB), with the guarantee of the Treasury.

Even the sales of Passats to Iraq during the last decade always included a built-in loss that ended up being covered by the Brazilian fuel consumer and by the Treasury.

Proof of this is found in an internal Petrobras document dated 29 November 1984 in which Carlos Sant'Anna, then the company's marketing director, submitted the cars-for-oil swap to a debate by the high command of that state enterprise. There are documents that prove that this country paid an extra $1.96 for each barrel imported from Iraq in order to enable Volkswagen to export its cars. That same script will be played out once again, but with Iran stepping into the starring role in place of Iraq.

* Motives for Trip Questioned

91SM0104B Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 21 Nov 90 p 3

[Editorial: "Iran—No Harm In Asking"]

[Text] What is a Brazilian delegation doing in Iran? The question takes on a new dimension when we recall that in July, Petrobras signed a contract with Teheran that is damaging to our interests. It is urgent that the administration explain the purposes of these new transactions that affect the nation—if only out of respect for the consumers. It is not their job to rescue certain companies that can only find markets at this country's expense.

It appears that the former directors of Petrobras signed a contract in July with the Iranian Government that called for the importation of 200,000 barrels a day of petroleum through December. One half of this is at market prices, but there is a surcharge of $1.10 per barrel on the other half. However, if you compare that oil to the higher-quality Saudi Arabian oil, the surcharge actually amounts to $5 per barrel. The first question that arises concerns the timing of that transaction. Since other countries have increased their petroleum production, Brazil could have made a better deal for itself, inasmuch as there was no shortage of the product. The second question is whether or not there exists a linkage between that contract and Brazilian exports, i.e., an exchange of goods in payment of petroleum that is imported with a surcharge. If the existence of such a barter transaction is confirmed, then we should find out which Brazilian companies are going to benefit, whether they are compensating Petrobras for the loss that results from a price that is higher than the world market level, or whether they are just making a good deal at the expense of the customer of petroleum derivatives.

Now we are faced with a new, two-part question: first, whether or not the contract with Iran, which expires in December, will be renewed. Second, whether the businessmen accompanying Minister of the Infrastructure Ozires Silva have been entrusted with concluding new transactions. The current president of Petrobras, Eduardo Teixeira, expressed doubts as to the fairness of the contract signed by his predecessor, and so one might find it strange that Minister Ozires Silva is now in Teheran to discuss its extension. One wonders whether he might have waited to leave on his trip until the study requested by the president of Petrobras concerning the advantages of the accord is finished.

What is most serious is that while the minister of the infrastructure explains that the purchase of Iranian oil is conditioned solely on Brazilian needs—and that continuation of the contract does not depend on the deals that could be made by the businessmen who accompany him—this trade mission is being treated as an official venture. Iran is said to be proposing $12 billion in exchanges over a three-year period, which may be of interest to Brazilian contractors and exporters who have lost the Iraqi and Kuwaiti markets. All indications are that a purchase of petroleum in proportions greater than our needs will be a mandatory feature of these transactions.

What goods will be exported? This is a question that deserves to be explained, in light of the rather unclear position of the Iranian Government in its relations with the government of Baghdad, and our duty to remember our commitments to the international community.

Chile

* Marin: Communists To Continue Marxist Fight

91SM0091A Santiago EL MERCURIO in Spanish 28 Oct 90 pp d8-d9

[Interview with Communist Party leader Gladys Marin by Blanca Arthur; place and date not given]

[Excerpts] In the 1960's, many viewed her as the "sexiest" member of the Congress, where she presented herself in her miniskirt.

"So many years ago!" she commented, half-serious and half-laughing, but in an informal way, because there is

nothing formal about her. She rejects being categorized today as the hardest liner in, or the gray eminence of, the Communist Party (PC).

"That's not right," Gladys Marin says, although the others insist that this woman, the only one on the Political Commission of the PC, is the individual who exercises the real power in the central leadership.

A parliamentarian for three terms, and secretary general of the "J" [as published: probably refers to Communist Youth] for many years, she joined the ranks of the communists, the cause to which she has dedicated her life, as a girl. "Being a communist," she says, "means surrendering oneself to a cause, believing that it is worthwhile to live life intensely. Either one does it individually, or for everyone."

She was and continues to be an advocate of the purest orthodox line. However, she does not have that rigid style or manner of speaking as though she were lecturing which characterize many leaders of the PC. She is spontaneous, and often bursts out with guffaws, and although she knows—or should know very well—what she is saying, she does not appear to calculate or measure her words.

[Arthur] They say that Volodia is the intellectual, and that it is you who head the struggle.

[Marin] All of us in the party are intellectuals.

She said this with a laugh which suggested that she is not without humor in her view of the communists themselves. And she added: "Well, we all have studied, we contribute ideas, and each one has his style."

Born of a popular background 50 years ago in Curepto, a town in the Center-South, she then moved to Talagante, where she enrolled in primary school, and later in a normal training school.

[Arthur] Did you have any religious training?

[Marin] I don't know about training, but I was baptized, had my first communion, and then when the other activity began—and I joined the party very young—new values were superimposed. One begins to be a part of what one is learning, and there is a natural abandonment of these ideas.

She does not define herself as an atheist, and in her view, being a Catholic and a Marxist "is something each person resolves in his own way. The Chilean Communist Party has not created any problems for those among its members who are of the Catholic faith."

A woman committed to her struggle, she was the last to speak before Allende over Radio Magallanes on 11 September, when he issued the appeal "everyone to his combat post." [passage omitted]

Return to Legality

Her reemergence in public life in January was symbolic. This occurred in a mass meeting at the Santa Laura Stadium. Speaking to some 20,000 persons from the stage, she announced in a fiery speech that the PC was becoming legal again.

[Arthur] What motivated you to register?

[Marin] Various considerations. One was that it represented good political work with the people, with the masses. It forced us to go into the streets, which is important for a party with the limitations imposed upon us by the dictatorship. We also wanted to assess the popular support of the party, and this was not easy.

[Arthur] Did the fact that you succeeded in collecting signatures and registering the party overcome the crisis you were experiencing?

[Marin] No. This was a very important step, I would say a historic one. When we went to register after 17 years of persecution, I thought that we had come to a historic moment. So many people thought that the party was dying, and this registration puts us in a better position to deal with things.

[Arthur] Now you will have to adhere to the law and hold internal elections. Does the current leadership accept the fact that it may be defeated?

[Marin] We are prepared to undertake everything that registering the party within this legal system entails, with the main objective of changing it and changing the Constitution. And we are not afraid of the fact that every election held means a change. After all! The members are the ones who decide.

[Arthur] Have you also done this in order to be able to participate in municipal elections?

[Marin] We have the greatest interest in participating in these elections if the law allows them to be held.

The Front

Today Gladys Marin is at the forefront of the new strategy which has led the party to pursue the electoral path. Clandestinely as well, she was on the front lines, and her entry into the country 12 years ago coincided with the change initiated in the policy of the PC, which culminated in the proclamation of the thesis of popular rebellion and "all forms of struggle."

[Arthur] They say that it was you who promoted this line, that you are the "godmother."

[Marin] The truth is the following. During our clandestine life, we saw that the people were struggling for popular rebellion, and in 1980, Corvalan made public this policy with which all of us within the party identify fully, and we are doing everything to implement it.

[Arthur] Did you think that you would be successful if the rest of the opposition did not share this policy?

[Marin] You must realize, because there were others who talked of civil disobedience, and resistance—they gave it various names, but basically we agreed that we had to use the force of the people, to bring the people to their feet in terms of the offensive, using every form possible to destroy the dictatorship.

[Arthur] But you also wanted to arm the people, and in 1983, the Manuel Rodriguez Front (FMR) was born. Was this to avoid the 1973 experience, when you were not armed?

[Marin] Although we are asked again and again, the Patriotic Front is an entity which was born independently. There were militants in the youth movement who joined, together with members of other movements wanting to identify with something which was not the party, and which allowed them to act more freely.

[Arthur] Did the leadership of the PC know about it, respect it, and appreciate it?

[Marin] We respect it as a valid element which aided in the struggle against the dictatorship. Yes, we respect it.

[Arthur] Were these young romantics, as Volodia described them?

[Marin] They helped, they contributed to the struggle.

Weapons and the Attack

[Arthur] In order to succeed in this struggle, arsenals of weapons were introduced in 1986, and then there was the attack on the life of Pinochet. Do you call these terrorist actions?

[Marin] Terrorist, indeed?! Pinochet is the terrorist. That is where this whole thing began. This was the reaction of young people, and they included some who have now come into the party. How can I call them terrorists?

[Arthur] What did you feel when the attack failed?

[Marin] The event would have had to occur in order to know that, and it did not.

[Arthur] But you were in agreement with what they did...

[Marin] I understand the attitude of these young people.

[Arthur] What do you think would have happened if they had been successful?

[Marin] It is hard to imagine. There was the Assembly of Civil Spiritedness as an opposition organization. And then, the Army? I believe that a very great change would have occurred without Pinochet, a very important change in the relations with civil society. For this reason, we continue to insist that he must go. In this, we have been consistent.

Present Events

[Arthur] What do you think of the actions the Autonomous Front continues to carry out?

[Marin] Now they are active in some sectors. I do not know how many, because if an investigation were undertaken, I believe that the Autonomous Front would be found responsible for some actions, and the Lautaro group for others—and I make the distinction, because they are not the same thing. And also the CNI [National Information Center]. But to answer your question, I believe that these are actions which at this time, now, are not helping.

[Arthur] What distinction are you making between the Lautaro group and the FMR?

[Marin] There is a danger—I do not say that they have been infiltrated—but a national question arises. Where are all the men who comprised the CNI? Might they not be committing actions to destabilize the regime?

[Arthur] This is your view of the Lautaro group?

[Marin] What I am saying is that this danger exists. The Lautaro group, to judge from what it is said to be doing, is made up of young people with their first involvement in politics, who would be reflecting the vacuum in the youth sector. This is proof that the young people need space, because if they feel that they are being excluded, they react in this way.

The Popular Rebellion

[Arthur] In 1988, you abandoned the violent struggle and embarked upon the electoral path. Did you conclude that the popular rebellion had failed?

[Marin] I would not say that it failed. It was a policy which contributed to opening doors leading toward electoral participation. Because the policy of popular rebellion promoted and accelerated matters.

[Arthur] What was accelerated, if the path was pursued and the periods the military regime had established came to an end?

[Marin] It was relative, because Pinochet could have gone much farther. The awareness of the people, the participation of the people, were accelerated. If we had been told that only the communists were at the barricades and participated in the demonstrations, we would have been proud. There were millions who participated, and this speeded up the process—the demand for change.

[Arthur] Do you view the failure in the elections, where you did not elect a single parliamentarian, as a defeat or punishment for the use of violent methods?

[Marin] It was neither a defeat nor punishment. First of all, there was an unjust law, and there was also the policy of exclusion which harms the people and the final results. And if you look at the results of a Communist Party

which was psychologically persecuted and which emerged under these conditions, the achievement of 24 percent, 26 percent in the Third Region, does not constitute a defeat, but, rather, a tremendous asset.

The Internal Crisis

[Arthur] What is your view of the internal crisis in the PC? Do you regard it as serious, or delicate?

[Marin] We realize that there is a crisis, and we said it long before some of those outside the party came forward to say it, as if we had not done so within the party. That is false. This party has had many discussions since 1980. There are contradictions, and therefore, there is a crisis to overcome. Even if there had been no crisis in socialism, we would have had to experience this. The transition from dictatorship to democracy is such a violent change.

[Arthur] What impact has the fall of the communist movements throughout the world had?

[Marin] This is also related to all of the crises being experienced in the communist parties and the socialist movement today. It is such a harsh blow for the communist parties to see that there are countries which have ceased to be communist and are moving into capitalism. This causes a shock to which each of us adapts in one way or another. There are people who believe that everything has failed, and that what we did serves no purpose. We are confident that this Communist Party, with all of the changes which must be made, will be capable of assimilating the errors and moving ahead within the Marxist perspective.

[Arthur] Many leaders believe that you are not prepared to recognize the errors. How do you view the dissidence which has been publicly evidenced?

[Marin] We have internal dissidence. The difference between us and those who have made their disagreements public is that they have organized themselves as a group, what we call in political terms a faction, an alternative group to the party.

[Arthur] The dissidents have used all kinds of terms in speaking of the central leadership. One typical charge is that of Redoles, who called it "dogmatic, sectarian, Stalinist, and out of step." How do you view these criticisms?

[Marin] I believe that it is very superficial to express such views in politics. We do not use these terms with regard to people who, claiming to be communists, are acting outside the party and are creating all of this political and public hubbub.

[Arthur] Are they outside the party?

[Marin] Obviously, they are, if they have established an organized faction.

[Arthur] But they continue to be militants.

[Marin] If they regard themselves as militants, they must accept what the Communist Party is, as well as its organic form and discipline. And we cannot accept the fact that they remove themselves from the party and turn this into a new attack on communism.

[Arthur] They say that you have not assimilated the changes.

[Marin] This is a self-interested and fanciful idea—self-interested and fanciful! Because serious changes have been made.

[Arthur] Why do you use these terms? What do you think they are trying to do?

[Marin] To form another party. I may be mistaken, but I believe that they want to form another party, one which would be a parallel communist party, or someting.

[Arthur] Setting Guastavino aside, there are others, such as Fanny Pollarolo, who have said that there is no room for debate within the Central Committee. Doesn't it seem to you that people like her, who take the responsibility for struggle, should be heard?

[Marin] Heavens! Put this in capital letters. All who have wanted to be heard have been heard. The Political Commission talked at length with Fanny, and will do so as often as necessary, but without agreeing that militants in the PC can engage in activities which work against the party. Because there is more than enough room for this necessary discussion within it.

Renewal, Yes or No?

[Arthur] What do you think of the award of the Nobel Prize to Gorbachev?

[Marin] Frankly, it is magnificent. All the effort which he has made in the realm of international politics has been tremendous. The step he has taken...

[Arthur] Don't you see this as a gesture in recognition of his policies designed to bury communism?

[Marin] I believe this is a serious prize, and that it was awarded for the proposals he made in the realm of disarmament and the rapprochement of the major blocs.

[Arthur] What do you think the outcome of his policies, such as perestroyka, will be?

[Marin] I go by what he has said, to the effect that changes such as perestroyka are designed to sustain socialism. I am guided by that, and I truly hope that this is true. I believe that things are rather confused in the Soviet Union, and no one can know what is going to happen.

[Arthur] Is this uncertainty a factor in terms of the indecision about changing the party scheme?

[Marin] The time is past for urging these kinds of renewal measures from us. We can no longer regard anyone as a god. This was fatal. We do not want any more dogmas.

[Arthur] The party is not dogmatic?

[Marin] Not at all. The errors our Communist Party committed came from looking to the USSR, because of its successes. And we tried to copy it exactly, which did not do any good, just as it would be damaging to anyone today who sought to transfer perestroyka to each individual communist party. Each party must carry out its own renewal, on the basis of its reality.

[Arthur] But you continue to be Stalinists.

[Marin] Who said that? Stalin was a Soviet phenomenon.

The Class Struggle

[Arthur] In the statement of principles you submitted for registration, you say that you aspire to socialism, but you do not propose a class struggle, even though the leaders have said that history has not buried it. Do you continue to see the class struggle as valid?

[Marin] Logically, yes. The class struggle is an absolutely valid category even in this stage of overdeveloped capitalism. It is valid. It is indeed an issue when we look at our beloved country, where clearly and profoundly marked classes exist.

[Arthur] Does the party policy promote it?

[Marin] It is an error to say that it promotes or maintains it, because the classes exist, and in attempting to serve their own interests, they come into conflict. That is a reality.

[Arthur] And in what way does this reality impact upon the action of the PC?

[Marin] It leads us to stand very firmly beside the workers and the working class in the struggle to achieve their interests.

[Arthur] To achieve a classless society?

[Marin] Obviously. To move closer to a society in which equality exists.

[Arthur] Do you hope to reestablish the PC-PS [Socialist Party] axis?

[Marin] It is very important for us to maintain a fluid relationship with the Socialist Party, for though it may be involved in other things today, we have identified with Marxism as the ideological basis for interpreting phenomena and determining what class we are working toward.

[Arthur] The PS today is allied with the DC [Christian Democracy]. Do you believe this is a strategic position, or is it dictated by a profound change oriented toward providing Chilean democracy with future stability?

[Marin] I believe that there are sectors in the socialist movement which see it as a long-term strategy working toward stabilization of the system. But there are others who believe in the need for a leftist alternative, though this does not conflict with their current participation in the government.

Candidates in 1993

[Arthur] When the DC decided on the alliances, Gabriel Valdes did not advocate excluding them. How do you see his conduct as president of the Senate now?

Several seconds of silence, perhaps even minutes, elapsed.

[Marin] Don Gabriel Valdes...has been a great diplomat, and he has been very active in this field. There are things about him which I frankly cannot endorse. You may tell me this is a part of politics, but I cannot accept his reception of Pinochet in the parliament. The people do not understand this, nor do they understand his statements about those who carried out the coup in Chile.

[Arthur] Do you believe he could be an alternative choice for the presidency?

[Marin] I have given very little thought to the presidential election. Certainly he could be, because this post provides projection both nationally and internationally.

[Arthur] What about Lagos?

[Marin] Lagos as well. I believe that he is a tremendous personality in Chile, who also has enough weight and intellectual capacity to be a candidate.

[Arthur] Would you support him?

[Marin] We are prepared to support the democratic individual who is strongest, within the broadest possible coalition.

The Transition

[Arthur] Do you believe that democracy came to Chile on 11 March?

[Marin] A tremendous event occurred in Chile on 11 March, a historic event during which this civilian government began the transition to democracy.

[Arthur] Corvalan said that a part of the crisis the PC is experiencing is due to the fact that the democratic solution was not what it wanted.

[Marin] Yes, that too, that too. This is a matter of great complexity.

[Arthur] What was it that you wanted?

[Marin] A more progressive outcome. Don Clodomiro Almeyda said in EL SIGLO that this was a mediative solution, and I agree with him completely.

[Arthur] Did you think that Pinochet would surrender power?

Marin thought for a moment, and then said: "I had my doubts. But afterward national and international forces were developing which made it very difficult for him to refuse. I therefore believe that he surrendered power not because he wanted to, but as a result of circumstances."

[Arthur] Are you pleased by the fact that on 11 March, the government was turned over to the man elected by the majority in popular elections?

[Marin] With regard to Pinochet, I am not pleased with anything, because he usurped power in Chile and retained it illegitimately for 16 years by engaging in the most brutal violence. And so what can I appreciate? We continue to think that he should depart.

[Arthur] Minister Enrique Correa said that civilian-military relations are absolutely normal. Do you not share this view?

[Marin] I do not believe that they are normal. There are so many obvious facts. Pinochet attends the official ceremonies he wants to and discusses politics. In my view, normal relations do not exist, and it is a mistake to seek to conceal the friction existing between Aylwin's government and the Army. Tell the people what is happening!

Truth and Justice

[Arthur] To what extent do you think that the Truth and Reconciliation Commission can resolve the human rights problem?

[Marin] I have a high opinion of the commission and the way ir which it is working. I had occasion to give testimony, together with my children, about the disappearance of my comrade Jorge Munoz, and there I was able to learn of many brutal things which happened in Chile. I believe that when the commission delivers its report, a political development will occur. There will be a new situation resulting from the impact of learning the truth I do not know what, but it will be something new.

[Arthur] What are you expecting after the truth becomes known?

[Marin] The most profound demand is that there must be justice.

[Arthur] Do you not accept the possibility that after the truth is known, there would be pardon and forgetfulness—a kind of amnesty?

[Marin] Not at all! This would mean betraying the most basic things in our life, our feelings, and our morality. It would be a betrayal of all those who gave up their lives not only for us, but so that we could breathe this air of freedom. We will not accept this, and we will do everything possible so that no impunity is granted in Chile.

[Arthur] What do you mean by doing everything possible?

[Marin] We would want the people to go into the streets, to mobilize, and to express themselves, because with such pressure, the parliament will have to heed the national clamor. There will be hunger strikes—I don't know, but the people will have to rise up and mobilize.

[Arthur] Do you believe they will do this? Because is it not the desire of the majority to have a reconciliation?

[Marin] Obviously they will do this. Anything else would be hypocrisy. The country needs truth and justice.

[Arthur] What does justice entail?

[Marin] Trials, trials of all those who are responsible, with all the aspects of legality and the guarantees you want, but trials. Here we must take the individuals responsible to the courts and penalize them with prison and other sentences.

[Arthur] You have said that General Pinochet should be tried.

[Marin] Well, obviously! He is the first. He must answer for all that has happened in Chile.

[Arthur] Does it seem realistic to you within the context of the process Chile is experiencing?

[Marin] What is this realistic business? This is designed to prevent people from thinking, because this works against certain interests. For us, realism is what we believe the truth must be, and if there is force enough to carry this forward, and no impunity is allowed—that is real.

[Arthur] For yourself personally, are you ready to pardon?

[Marin] Whom?

[Arthur] With the understanding that the truth will be made known...

[Marin] Possessing knowledge of who it was who seized Jorge and why they murdered him, the first thing I would hope is that the law would be applied. If, in this connection, the famous legality of which there has been so much talk exists, the institutions—let them be tried, let them admit their guilt, let them pay for their crimes, and then be pardoned.

[Arthur] It is not your desire to pardon, then.

[Marin] You should ask this question of each of the individuals who have experienced a situation like this. How far do they want to push us? Do they want to make us into people without feelings on the basis of some so-called realism?

[Arthur] On that basis, does it not seem just to you that the law should be applied to political prisoners, in view of the fact that they have committed terrorist actions, such as the assassination of the carabineers and others?

[Marin] These are very different things. They were fighting for democracy, for freedom, while the criminals

committed crimes against human rights. The situations are very different, and they cannot be compared.

The Economy and 'Capitalization'

[Arthur] Recently you have come out with criticism directed toward the economic situation. Are you opposed to the economic plan of the government?

[Marin] Yes, we are opposed to it. It is the same as that promoted by the dictatorship, which made so much social injustice, so much inequality, possible.

[Arthur] Has not the failure of the centralized economies in the socialist world led you to change your opinion about the need for market policies?

[Marin] The market exists and it must be recognized as a regulating factor in the economy. But it is something else to agree to submit to all of the arbitrary aspects of the market laws, which allow some people to get rich at the expense of the popular sectors. We are concerned about the situation of the people. We have traveled throughout the country, and the people support the government but are asking about the price increases.

[Arthur] Are you seeking to capitalize on this discontent?

[Marin] No, because we are not capitalists, as Volodia said.

She laughed as she spoke, and added: "What is important to us is that this economic policy be changed. And we will work toward this, helping the people to organize, because this change will be brought about thanks to the force of the people. The people are paying a very high cost with their low salaries and the maintenance of the UF [not translated; a unit of accounting adjusted for inflation].

[Arthur] Fra Fra may have the solution...

Gladys Marin guffawed and commented: "Very likely."

[Arthur] How do you view the phenomenon of the political support he has?

[Marin] These are phenomena which occur during a transition to democracy. The people have not been involved in politics. And then a rather ill-defined center-rightist, or center-leftist, or center-centrist, as he calls himself, emerges—appealing, with an image, and attractive to the people.

[Arthur] And would you say that the UDI [Independent Democratic Union] has a presence in the settlements?

[Marin] It does. It has a presence which it developed under the dictatorship, and it reached certain places, but with primitive things.

[Arthur] Is it winning people away from you?

[Marin] The UDI is so reactionary. It participated actively in the dictatorship, so that it has no political-moral force for dealing with the people.

[Arthur] With what force do you plan to mobilize the people, since the surveys show that you lack support?

[Marin] I believe that they don't know much about us.

[Arthur] Or a great deal...

[Marin] With all of the internal and external difficulties, we have embarked upon a path which requires that we work harder, and we are certain that we have a broad field where we can develop.

[Arthur] Do you foresee a socialist Chile?

[Marin] The possibility exists, but more than that, there is a need. This can be felt.

Colombia

Army Continues Offensive Against FARC

PA1112204590 Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 2 in Spanish 1740 GMT 11 Dec 90

[Text] Fighting continues in La Uribe, Meta Department, where the Army launched a final offensive 48 hours ago against FARC [Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia] positions in Casa Verde.

Our special envoy Vilma Tarazona is at the site of the operations in Mesetas Municipality, Meta Department:

[Begin recording] [Tarazona] Eight hundred new soldiers belonging to the Special Counterguerrilla Forces were brought in from Tolemaida to reinforce the 1,500 men who started the occupation of Casa Verde three days ago.

The strategy used by the Army in this operation is helicopter-born assault. This means that the 40 helicopters are directly transporting soldiers to the Casa Verde area because the terrain's flatness facilitates a direct incursion.

The Army reported that counterguerrilla troops are currently closing off the three possible escape routes that the insurgents might use—namely, the roads to Sumapat, El Huila, and El Caqueta.

[Captain Matamoros] The assault troops initially entered the camp area and stayed there, but we stayed over here to implement a security operation hoping to send more troops there.

[Tarazona] The Army said that the FARC hierarchy has not yet been touched because the dispersion strategy used by the guerrillas has facilitated their escape. At this hour, the groups tasked with protecting the FARC's main leaders are offering an aggressive resistance to the Army, which has not yet been able to subdue them.

Meanwhile, Meseta Municipality residents, who have coexisted with FARC members for many years, are afraid that the bombings will cause the exodus of many peasants and will hurt innocent people:

[Unidentified mayor of Meseta] There could be families living near the sites that will be bombed. The explosions could force them to flee the area. [end recording]

Meanwhile, just minutes ago Army Commander General Manuel Murillo read an official Army communique on the situation of the fighting in La Uribe. The high-ranking official refused to answer the journalists' questions.

Victor Javier Solano filed this report:

[Begin Murillo recording, in progress] ...have absolutely consolidated the exercise of legitimate authority in the area that formerly served as headquarters of the self-styled FARC General Secretariat. There is nothing new on the Army troops besides what we already reported on 9 December.

Military operations continue to guarantee the safety of units committed to the area. We also report that there is absolute calm throughout national territory and that the "Democracy 3 Operation" continues without surprises. Thank you very much. [end recording]

Extraditables Release Kidnapped German Journalist

PA1212021490 Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 2 in Spanish 0000 GMT 12 Dec 90

[Interview with German Journalist Hero Buss by unidentified reporters in Medellin on 11 December—recorded]

[Text] [Announcer] Good evening. May I have your attention. The German journalist Hero Buss, who had been kidnapped by the Extraditables, was released in Medellin this afternoon. We have this last-minute report.

[Begin recording] [Reporter] What did the kidnappers tell you about Diana Turbay, Francisco Santos, and the rest of the journalists?

[Buss] A few minutes before I arrived here, they told me that the journalists would be released very soon. They said that Ricardo Becerra and Orlando Acevedo would probably be released next but that Diana Turbay and Azucena Lievano would surely be released before Christmas. I say this with due reservations, however, because the kidnappers have said many things during the past three months. Sometimes what they said was true and sometimes it was not. I, myself, sat on top of my suitcase and was ready to leave five or six times. They told me: You are leaving now. You leaving right now and you will sit there after washing your ears and putting on make-up for the television cameras. [laughs]

[Reporter] Do you know where you were held, and can you tell us how you were treated?

[Buss] We were treated very well during the first 10 days and during the past two weeks.

[Reporter] Did you have any contact with the rest of the kidnapped journalists?

[Buss] The last colleague I saw was Juan Vitta.

[Reporter] Do you have any idea of where you were being held?

[Buss] No.

[Reporter] How long did you have to travel to get to Medellin?

[Buss] [Words indistinct].

[Repoter] In what kind of car did they bring you here?

[Buss] A medium-sized car.

[Reporter] Were you blindfolded and lying down in the car as was the case with Juan Vitta? How did you travel?

[Buss] [Words indistinct].

[Reporter] Did you have a chance to talk to [words indistinct]?

[Buss] Yes, sometimes; however, my impression is that none of them had any decisionmaking ability.

[Reporter] What did you talk about?

[Buss] It was small talk.

[Reporter] Give us an example.

[Buss] We talked about the American soccer team's next game. [end recording]

Promotions, Transfers in Armed Forces Ordered

PA1112132390 Bogota EL NUEVO SIGLO in Spanish 24 Nov 90 pp 1, 10

[Text] The decrees issued by President Cesar Gaviria and Defense Minister General Oscar Botero Restrepo mean the country now has seven new generals and three rear admirals. In addition, three major generals were promoted to the rank of three-star general, four brigadier generals were promoted to major general, and two rear admirals to vice admiral. The promotions are included in Decree 3831 of 23 November 1990.

In Decree 2832 of 23 November, the government moved most of the brigade commanders, including two generals widely known for their antidrug activities—namely, Harold Beyoda Pizarro and Jose Manuel Bonnett Locarno, who have been sent to Bogota.

Receiving three stars were Major Generals Daniel Enrique Garcia Echeverry, who will serve as chief of the Joint Chiefs of Staff; Manuel Jaime Forero Quinones, the new commander of the Air Force; and Manuel Alberto Murillo Gonzalez, the new commander of the National Army.

Promoted to major general were Brigadier Generals Manuel Sanmiguel Buenaventura, commander of the 2d Division; Hernando Camilo Zuniga Chaparro, commander of the 3d Division; Luis Humberto Correa

Castaneda, commander of the 1st Division; and Edie Alberto Pallares Cotes, commander of the 4th Division.

The following rear admirals were promoted to the rank of vice admiral: Hernando Garcia Ramirez, who will serve as the Pacific Naval Base commander, and Holdan Ovidio Delgado Villamil, who will serve as the Atlantic Naval Base commander.

The new one-star generals are: Colonels Gustavo Pardo Ariza, who will serve as the commander of the 4th Brigade; Norberto Adrada Cordoba, as commander of the 7th Brigade; Victor Julio Arevalo Pinilla, as commander of the 3d Brigade; Crispiniano Quinones Quinones, as commander of the Mobile Brigade; Mario Gutierrez Isaza, as commander of the 14th Brigade; Marino Hugo Galan Rodriguez, as director of the Cadet Military School; and Guillermo Zuniga Cabrera, as commander of the Tactical Support Air Command.

In Decree 2382, the government ordered the following appointments and transfers: Vice Admiral Gustavo Adolfo Angel Mejia is the new commander of the National Navy, Vice Admiral Alberto Sandoval Solano becomes the National Navy's second in command, and Vice Admiral Alvaro Campos Castaneda is the new inspector general of the National Navy.

It was also decided that General Ramon Emilio Gil Bermudez will be transferred from the Higher War School to the post of inspector general of the Armed Forces; General Eduardo Plata Quinones will be the Army Command's inspector general; General Hernan Jose Rodriguez will be the deputy chief of the Joint Chiefs of Staff; General Juan Salcedo Loral will head the Armed Forces' General Command; General Harold Bedoya Pizarro will be the director of the Higher War School; General Ramon Eduardo Niebles Uscategui will go to the general garrison of the Army Command; General Jose Roger Sanchez will be the director of the Central Military Hospital; General Alfonso Antonio Abondonado Alzamora will be the inspector general of the Air Force; General Humberto Arturo Tovar Sanchez will be the 2d Brigade commander; General Manuel Jose Bonett Locarno will go to the central garrison of the Military Forces' General Command; Rear Admiral Benjamin Gamarra Murillo will be the Navy's chief of operations; Rear Admiral Gilberto Enrique Roncancio Sarmiento will be the director of the Naval School; and Rear Admiral Hugo Sanchez Granados will be the vice director of the Higher War School.

Medellin Superior Tribunal Judge Wounded 10 Dec

PA1112202190 Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 2 in Spanish 1735 GMT 11 Dec 90

[Text] Carmen Palacio, magistrate of Medellin's Superior Tribunal, was wounded last night as she was on her way home. She is in very critical condition. The magistrate received three shots but still managed to courageously defend herself from her attackers.

Margarita Tobon filed this report from Medellin:

[Begin recording] [Tobon] Fortunately, the 45-year-old criminal attorney is still alive, although her condition is quite delicate. She is receiving assistance at a hospital in this capital.

The criminal attack took place in front of the residence that she has shared with friends for only the past month in Laureles, El Nogal, western Medellin.

As she was leaving her car, a red Sprint, three individuals in a vehicle fired several shots at her, but only one shot lodged in her chest. Shouting that she had been attacked by thieves, she managed to walk on her own to her door and ring the bell before falling on the floor as she was being helped inside.

This is why the authorities have not yet been able to determine the specific motives for the attack. Vehicle theft cannot be ruled out if we take into account that she never reported having been threatened and that she was not accompanied by bodyguards.

[Captain Matamoros] We do not yet know what really transpired. This is why it would be premature to blame anyone or link this to any business that she might be involved in. We do not yet know anything.

[Tobon] The truth is that Palacio is a courageous woman, according to her friends. This is why she repelled the attack and managed to wound one of the hired assassins, who rapidly fled from the site of the attack. [end recording]

* Colombians Polled on Assembly Issues

91P40057A

[Editorial Report] Bogota SEMANA in Spanish of 13 October on page 13 publishes the results of a poll conducted by the National Consulting Center (CNC) in Colombia's four largest cities (names of cities and dates not given). The following are the results of responses to the question "Please indicate one reform which you would like to see instituted by the National Constitutional Assembly":

Type of Reform	Percentage
Labor Reform	18.7
Justice	13.5
Congress	9.6
Education	8.4
No to Extradition	5.0
Security	3.5
Agrarian Reform	3.5
Economic Reform	2.8
Housing	2.6
Human Rights	2.4

Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish of 19 October on page 7A publishes results of an extensive poll it conducted in conjunction with "Reportajes Caracol" and CNC on 13

and 14 October in the cities of Bogota, Medellin, Barraquilla, and Bucaramanga. Responses to questions concerning institutional and electoral reforms, guerrilla participation in the Constituent Assembly and divorce follow:

The majority of Colombians polled, regardless of their political affiliation, feel that guerrilla groups should disarm before being allowed to participate in the Assembly: 71.5

of the liberals, 77.4

of the conservatives, and 71.9

of the leftists are in favor of guerrilla demobilization as a prerequisite for their participation. Asked whether guerrilla groups should participate at all in the Assembly, 54

of all polled say no. Among leftist respondents, however, 60.7

indicate they are in favor of their participation.

An overwhelming majority indicate that they are in favor of direct elections for departmental governors (86),

the Comptroller General (81.7),

and the Attorney General (81.4).

In addition, 83.4

of the respondents believe that the Assembly should initiate significant congressional reforms; a majority feels that Congress should be made unicameral (64.4)

and that slush funds currently made available to legislators should be eliminated (71.1).

Paraguay

Commander Reports Resurgence of 'Nostalgic Groups'

PY1112204790 Asuncion ULTIMA HORA in Spanish 10 Dec 90 p 12

[Text] General Dionisio Cabello Amarilla, the acting Paraguayan Air Force [FAP] commander [title as published], said this morning that Paraguay's democratization process is not exempt from dangers. He added that centers of resistance and pressures from nostalgic groups have resurged in many sectors. Cabello also rejected the position of certain political and social sectors that want to exclude the Armed Forces from the democratization process.

General Cabello Amarilla spoke at a ceremony to award the "Air Force Medal" to three Air Force officers at the Air Force Noncommissioned Officers School graduation ceremony, which was presided over by President Andres Rodriguez.

In view of the resurgence of "nostalgic sectors," the FAP commander said that the Armed Forces are ready to defend the democratization process.

He added: "We reject all forms of violence, no matter their banner, cause, or goals. We encourage a civilized exchange of constructive ideas as the only means to overcome disagreements and achieve solutions."

Regarding the intentions of certain political and social sectors to exclude the Armed Forces from this process, General Cabello said: "Those who strive for an antimilitaristic connotation to the democratic process, those who believe that by seeking to exclude the Armed Forces they help the process headed by our commander in chief—who enjoys the complete support of his subordinates—are wrong. To judge superficially an institution that is deeply rooted in our national being, based on isolated actions or behavior, is unjust. Moreover, this goes against the people's principles."

The FAP commander added that the government has recently heeded many social claims through planned actions but without demagoguery. He stressed that it is impossible to solve in a couple of years problems caused by decades of social insensitivity. He said that the executive branch has clearly shown its interest in the situation of the people.

Gen. Cabello said: "The means available and the prevailing legal order do not allow the expeditious implementation of the plans designed to achieve social justice."

Peru

Guerrillas Attack U.S. Oil Company Installation

PA1212045790 Paris AFP in Spanish 0437 GMT 12 Dec 90

[Text] Lima, 11 Dec (AFP)—Energy Minister Fernando Sanchez reported today that approximately 150 guerrillas attacked and dynamited an exploration camp of the U.S. Mobil Oil Company located in the Peruvian Amazon region. The rebels caused serious property damage but there were no victims.

According to the authorities, the guerrillas caused more than $3 million in damage when they burned and dynamited oil exploration equipment, satellite communications systems, computers, hangars for helicopters, and other valuable installations.

The attack was carried out against Barranca, the base camp in Alto Huallaga Valley, approximately 600 km northeast of Lima, a region considered "red" because of the active presence of two subversive groups operating in Peru—the Shining Path and the Tupac Amaru Revolutionary Movement (MRTA).

Two helicopters were hijacked for several hours. One of the helicopters was used by the guerrillas to destroy

installations located several kilometers from the camp, according to reports from the authorities.

The energy minister condemned the attack and said that Mobil's operations will suffer a six-month delay. He pointed out, however, that the company's officials said they would continue working in the Peruvian Amazon region in compliance with an agreement signed with the government in late October.

Panamanian Ties Normalized, Ambassador Accredited

PY1112130090 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0245 GMT 11 Dec 90

[Text] Lima, 10 Dec (EFE)—Peru and Panama normalized their diplomatic relations when Gerardo Arias, the new Panamanian ambassador, presented his credentials to President Alberto Fujimori today. Fujimori told Arias that Peru reaffirms its decision to "intensify and strengthen" trade, cultural, and tourist relations with Panama.

Arias, on being officially recognized by the Peruvian Government, highlighted the historic ties between his country and Peru, and he extended a "special greeting" from Panamanian President Guillermo Endara to Fujimori.

On 6 December the Peruvian Government named Guillermo Fernandez as the new Peruvian ambassador to Panama. Fernandez will travel to Panama in the next few days, as soon as his posting has been ratified by the Senate.

Relations between Peru and Panama deteriorated in December 1989 after the U.S. military invasion of that country. Bilateral diplomatic relations were reduced to the level of secretary after the withdrawal of ambassadors, and as of April 1990, they were at the level of charge d'affaires.

Fujimori also received the credentials of the new Costa Rican ambassador to Lima, Thomas Soley Solar, who noted that this is the third time he is representing his country in Peru.

Fujimori Supports Army, Criticizes Legislators

PY1212234090 Lima Television Peruana in Spanish 0000 GMT 10 Dec 90

[Film indicates apparent editing by station]

[Excerpt] President of the Republic Alberto Fujimori today criticized those who ignore national interests and seek to question the honesty of the executive branch's proposal to promote five Army generals. Fujimori indicated that the proposed officers meet the necessary requirements to enjoy those benefits. Fortunately, he said, good sense prevailed in the Senate and justice was done, giving priority to the national interest.

The head of state also reaffirmed his resolute support for the Army and the Armed Forces, which are defending democracy within the constitutional framework. He made these remarks during a speech delivered at the Army's main barracks to celebrate Army Day and the 166th anniversary of the Battle of Ayacucho.

[Begin Fujimori recording] This is my first chance to participate, as the constitutional president of the Republic, in this ceremony, which is so important to those who wear the glorious uniform of the Peruvian Army.

With special satisfaction, I wanted to join you in this important ceremony and take the opportunity to make some statements about the role of today's Army.

Peru's future depends to a large extent on the Army's accomplishment of its duties as a member of our Armed Forces. Therefore, this requires the [word indistinct] and the participation of each one of you.

The profound transformation in which the government is engaged requires a solid contribution from all Peruvians, especially people in uniform, because our fatherland's sacred interests come first.

Fortunately, with special pride and in my position as commander in chief of the Armed Forces, I must say that the Peruvian Army fully understands the role it must play today; as Peruvians, we feel committed to the struggle to overcome the difficult time the country is going through and to thus be able to [word indistinct] in the [word indistinct] of a fatherland of free people and of a truly sovereign nation.

Unfortunately, not everyone understands the great effort and the self-denying sacrifice of our Army personnel in this great crusade to defeat crime and terrorist violence.

There are some persons—driven perhaps by their eagerness to maintain their political influence or by their desire to attract a larger audience—who ignore the great national interests and prefer their partisan or group ambitions [words indistinct] confusing the citizenry and people in uniform.

As you know very well, the executive branch—in strict compliance with the laws governing the Army promotion process—submitted to the Senate of the Republic the proposals for the promotion to [words indistinct] division generals of five [word indistinct] generals, as all of them met the requirements [words indistinct] to aspire to such a high level. Following this proposal, some senators expressed doubts and negative opinions.

With natural concern, we have asked ourselves a few questions. How can one, on the one hand, ask for more energy and forcefulness against subversion when, on the other, he is seeking to question the performance of officers who are sacrificing themselves or have sacrificed themselves in this bloody struggle to defend democracy?

How can one ask a man in uniform to [words indistinct] his self-denying sacrifice and risk his life when, instead of recognizing [word indistinct] his efforts, one is seeking

to disturb him morally through a [word indistinct] and create obvious discontent in the morale and fighting ability of our troops?

How can a soldier take up arms to defend the Republic when partisan political interests seek to [words indistinct] his sacrifice? Fortunately, good sense and calm prevailed in the Senate's debate and justice was done, giving priority to the nation's interests.

I am sure that these promotions have been received with special joy and unanimous support from the Army and the entire Armed Forces.

I reiterate at this celebration that in my government there is no indecisiveness; we are giving our full and firm support to the entire Armed Forces and their actions in the struggle against those who want to destroy our fatherland.

As [words indistinct] from my post of commander in chief I am constantly monitoring the progress of all operations, and the decisions that I will make as commander in chief will always conform to the constitutional framework.

Gentlemen, Mr. Army Commander General, in this patriotic ceremony we have correctly expressed our respect and admiration for the heroes of Ayacucho, who are a symbol of the Peruvian Army. We wanted to pay this tribute, emphasizing the profound significance of their message and their example.

I am paying the highest honor that can be paid to the Peruvian soldier who shed his blood for this generous Peruvian land and to the many heroes who [word indistinct] this stage of our republican life and managed to [words indistinct] surrendering his life to preserve our independence and sovereignty.

Today, [Colonel Francisco] Bolognesi, our Army's greatest hero [who fought in the War of the Pacific], [former President General Andres Avelino] Caceres, Alfonso Urgarte, Miguel Grau Quinones [admiral who fought in the War of the Pacific], and so many others who [words indistinct] the Army and the Armed Forces an everlasting lesson of [word indistinct] and patriotism. Thank you very much. [end recording] [passage omitted]

Names Minister, Backs Armed Forces

PY1212001090 Lima Television Peruana in Spanish 0100 GMT 11 Dec 90

[Excerpts] President Alberto Fujimori today announced the appointment of Oscar de la Puente Raygada as the new education minister. In a news conference at Government Palace, the president said that he will administer the oath of office to the new minister at noon tomorrow.

[Begin Fujimori recording, in progress] ...to announce the name of the new education minister, who will be sworn in tomorrow at 1230 [as heard]. He is Oscar de la Puente Raygada, an attorney who studied at San Marcos Greater University as well as in Madrid and Oviedo. [passage omitted] [end recording]

President Fujimori voiced optimism about the way talks are going with the IMF in Washington. He said that we are looking for support for our 1991 economic program and noted that specific measures are being adopted to create adequate conditions for the Armed Forces to fight the pockets of subversion.

[Begin recording] [Reporter] [Question indistinct]?

[Fujimori] It is on the right track. I have just talked to [Central Reserve Bank President] Jorge Chavez. These negotiations will obviously take several days, considering that Peru has been isolated for more than five years and has an accrued debt of more than $2 billion with international organizations alone.

The program we submitted to the IMF has been studied and well received. We hope that these talks with international organizations will result in initiatives from them to support our economic program. These negotiations are designed to seek support for the program we will implement in 1991 through the new budget.

[Reporter] [Words indistinct] in the struggle against subversion?

[Fujimori] Some specific, concrete measures are being adopted to allow the Armed Forces to create the necessary conditions to take effective action against the pockets of subversion. I have reiterated—and I have done this also through practical measures—my support for the Armed Forces. It is necessary for all the people to understand that we must be united behind the objective of engaging in an unwavering struggle to achieve peace. There should not be contradictory positions on this subject. On the one hand some are shouting that we must fight subversion, while on the other they criticize us when we assume a firm position regarding actions by our Armed Forces. It seems to me that in this regard every action must conform to the law. But I repeat: We must give the Armed Forces the power to take action without worrying about baseless political criticism. [end recording]

Senators React to Fujimori's Remarks

PY1112010090 Lima Television Peruana in Spanish 1100 GMT 11 Dec 90

[Text] President Alberto Fujimori's recent remarks on the promotion of Army generals caused contradictory reactions in the Senate's morning session yesterday. After a debate, it was decided that the president can give his opinion on the actions of a legislative branch without affecting its attributions.

The Senate's morning session focused its debate on President Fujimori's remarks on the promotion of two Army brigade generals to division general. The president attended the promotion ceremony, and this is what led

to the conflict. Some representatives expressed their dissatisfaction with this decision, but others—such as Javier Alva Orlandini, Roger Caceres Velasquez, and Armando Villanueva—said the president of the Republic, like any other citizen, has the right to give his opinion without affecting the attributions and autonomy of one of the legislative branches.

[Begin recording by unidentified senator] I am one of those who think, Mr. President, that we must act with much prudence in situations of this nature, especially taking into account the country's difficult situation. For this reason, Mr. President—and although I disagree with any extreme measure that may have been excessively harsh on the Senate—I admit that the president of the nation has every right to give his opinion, especially in the manner in which he gave his, as reported by the first Peruvian newspaper, EL COMERCIO. This is my opinion, Mr. President, on the subject under discussion today. [end recording]

Swears In New Education Minister

PY1212011090 Lima Television Peruana in Spanish 1800 GMT 11 Dec 90

[Excerpt] President Alberto Fujimori today swore in Oscar de la Puente Raygada as the new education minister. The ceremony was held in the Gold Hall of Government Palace. [passage omitted]

Shining Path Guerrillas Torture, Kill Peasants

PY1112131690 Madrid EFE in English 0426 GMT 11 Dec 90

[Excerpt] Huancayo, Peru, Dec 10 (EFE)—Suspected Peruvian left-wing rebels have shot dead three peasants near a city in the central Andean region, police officials said Monday [10 December].

Officials said Maoist "Shining Path" guerrillas kidnapped the three peasants last Saturday and the victims' bodies were found a day later in an area north of Huancayo, 315 km east of the capital. The peasants had been tortured, police said. The three peasants belonged to one of numerous civil defense groups that the Armed Forces ordered to be set up in the central Huancayo and Ayacucho departments to ward off attacks by left-wing rebels. [passage omitted]

Commission To Study Project With Colombia

PY1212022490 Lima Domestic Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 11 Dec 90

[Text] Foreign Minister Luis Marchand this afternoon installed a joint Peruvian-Colombian commission to analyze the Putumayo River Basin development program. The commission will also discuss hydromorphic studies, cooperation in petroleum and telecommunications, and other topics.

Uruguay

Lawmakers Assess Bush Speech to Congress

PY1112213390 Montevideo EL DIA in Spanish 5 Dec 90 p 4

[Text] The speech delivered by the White House chief at the joint session of Congress has provoked diverse, even contradictory, reactions among congressional sectors. EL DIA has asked lawmakers from different political and philosophical leanings for their comments.

Here are the reactions of Americo Ricaldoni, Alberto Brause, Luis Alberto Heber, Francisco Rodriguez Camusso, Danilo Astori, Javier Barrios Anza, and Rafael Michelini.

Senator Americo Ricaldoni (FB) [expansion unknown] described Bush's remarks as "sincere," "direct," and "clear."

Commenting on Bush's Americas Initiative proposal, Ricardoni said: "Time will tell which is the most advisable course of action on this proposal and whether it seeks to solve some of the Uruguayan foreign trade problems."

Colorado Senator Alberto Brause (BR) [expansion unknown] described Bush's speech as "positive" because "he placed special emphasis on solidarity among the Americas and on the need to strengthen the western hemisphere on the basis of his initiative to promote trade, increase investments, and ultimately reduce the Latin American debt."

Commenting on the GATT Uruguay Round, Brause pointed out the U.S. commitment to reduce its tariffs on agricultural products, "thus seeking to ease the marketing of these products."

Deputy Luis Alberto Heber stated that the U.S. President's presence in our country "has confirmed that Bush regards the Americas as a continent that should form an economic bloc like those elsewhere in the world."

In Heber's opinion, it is not a hasty move to seek continental integration as long as we achieve regional integration first. "The U.S. presence is in fact sending a clear message to the American people because we are not asking for donations, but for changes in international trade relations."

Heber added: "If tomorrow we cannot enter the EEC, we will enter the U.S. market because we will be negotiating with other blocs on an equal footing, not individually."

Commenting on Bush's speech, Broad Front [FA] Deputy Francisco Rodriguez Camusso said: "I thought the speech was in tune with the circumstances." He said his leftist coalition "deeply disagrees with Bush's policy, and his remarks on nonintervention reminded me of Panama and Grenada; his remarks on the Persian Gulf and the annexation of one country by another reminded

me of the Zionist occupation of the Gaza Strip, the West Bank, and of Jerusalem in violation of the UN resolutions and of international law."

Rodriguez noted, however, that "it would be encouraging if we reach trade agreements and if the Uruguay Round is successful."

FA Senator Danilo Astori said that he attended President Bush's activities in Congress as well as the ceremony in which the Montevideo mayor handed the city's key to Bush because "these were very important events for Uruguayans."

Astori praised the U.S. President's role in searching for ways and points of convergence between the United States and Latin American countries. He said: "We hope some of the things Bush said in his speech will materialize because thus far those things are still not tangible."

Astori charged that the U.S. Government "has time and again attacked Latin America both militarily and economically." Astori also predicted that the Bush initiative will fail to promote integration because "a free trade solution for unequal partners will destroy the weak; its proposal to solve the foreign debt problem is ludicrously insufficient; and the amount it proposes to invest in Latin America will be depleted in three days by interest and capital gains."

Deputy Javier Barrios Anza, head of the Rocha National Movement Bloc, said that President Bush has confirmed his Americas Initiative proposal, even though it is still being drafted. Within this context, the Blanco deputy said that "there is a great hope" that we will achieve integration.

Barrios believes that the Uruguayan Government should "take advantage" of the opportunities available through the U.S. proposal. He said: "We must learn that no one is going to give us anything for free."

Deputy Rafael Michelini (PGP) [Hugo Batalla-led Party of the Government by the People] said that the U.S. President's remarks must be carefully reviewed, although "I believe that his opinion carries a lot of weight on the international political scene."

Michelini added: "Some of the points he mentioned are very controversial because they reflect the U.S. viewpoint on these matters. We did not fail, however, to convey our respect for President Bush."

Michelini added that integration should be "prudently" carried out because Latin American economies are weak. He said: "If we rapidly set up a market of the Americas, it could cause a huge crisis."

'Hundreds' Demonstrate Against Bush's Visit

PY1112224590 Montevideo LA HORA POPULAR in Spanish 5 Dec 90 p 4

[Excerpts] Hundreds of people clashed with the police during President Bush's official visit to Montevideo, but no one was injured. A group of demonstrators were repressed after burning a U.S. flag. Maria de Los Angeles Hernandez, a journalist from Channel 5, was hit by buckshot, allegedly fired by the police forces. Several youths tried to join a demonstration held by relatives of missing people, but were dispersed by the police.

As Bush was delivering a speech to the General Assembly, a group of approximately 300 alleged students burned a U.S. flag. They were dispersed by the police when they tried to approach the Congress. [passage omitted]

The relatives of missing people also gathered on the median strip of Libertador Avenue just two blocks from Congress. They carried white crosses and U.S. flags that bore the skull and cross bones. They were forced to move to the sidewalk. [passage omitted]

Lacalle To Meet Menem in Buenos Aires

PY1112182890 Montevideo Radio El Espectador Network in Spanish 1500 GMT 11 Dec 90

[Text] Uruguayan President Luis Alberto Lacalle and his Argentine counterpart Carlos Menem will meet in Buenos Aires on 15 December. The two presidents will have a working lunch at the Olivos presidential residence. The agenda will include an evaluation of U.S. President George Bush's visit to the two countries. It has been reported that the meeting will have an open agenda, and the main topics will deal with regional immigration, the creation of Mercosur [Southern Cone common market], and the project for construction of a gas pipeline between the two nations.